

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأسي

Iraqi law would ban religious parties

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's National Assembly on Wednesday began debating a law permitting new political parties. New parties will have to recognise the principles of the 1968 revolution that brought the Baath Party to power and only the Baath will be able to operate inside the army and security services, according to the government newspaper Al Jumhuriya. The draft law would also ban parties with religious affiliations. "Our society is not ready to accept the concept of religious parties," Speaker Saadi Mehdi Saleh told members of the 250-seat assembly. The bill was finalised by the ruling Revolution Command Council and the leadership of the Baath Party last week. Mr. Saleh said religious parties would be divisive and lay the country open to outside interference. In Iraq, Sunni Muslims have traditionally been politically dominant over the majority Shi'ite Muslim population. "In the beginning there would be only two Islamic parties — one Shi'ite and one Sunni," Mr. Saleh added. "Any religious party in Iraq will become run by (Saudi King) Fahd or (Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali) Khamenei."

Rabin to fight for Labour leadership

TEL AVIV (R) — Former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin challenged Mr. Shimon Peres' leadership of the Labour Party on Wednesday, threatening to split the only party that could defeat Israel's hardline government in elections next year. "I am standing for elections," Mr. Rabin, 69, told Israel Radio. He named Mr. Peres, 67, his longtime rival, for Labour's failure to win a clear victory in four elections since 1977. "It's a fact. We haven't formed a government after four elections," Mr. Rabin said. His announcement followed a party membership drive and reports that he had privately told party activists of his intentions Tuesday. Mr. Rabin has been fuming since Mr. Peres last year took Labour out of a coalition with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud party. Likud had refused to accept U.S. proposals for first-ever peace talks with Palestinians.

Volume 16 Number 4740

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 4-5, 1991, THU AL HIGHEH 22-23, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Iraq says Kuwait to deport 20,000

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq said Wednesday that Kuwait was planning to deport more than 20,000 Arabs of various nationalities to southern Iraq Thursday. The Iraqi News Agency, quoting what it called a "responsible source" at the International Committee of the Red Cross, said the Arabs would be deported through the Safwan border post. It said the Red Cross was trying to help arrange their passage home. "This measure comes as part of the arbitrary measures the Kuwaiti authorities are perpetrating against the Iraqi and Arab nationals residing in Kuwait," the agency said. There was no confirmation of its report.

Egypt detains Israel-U.S. team

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian authorities detained a U.S.-sponsored research team for allegedly entering a forbidden area in the Red Sea and taking protected coral and maritime plants, Egyptian and Israeli officials said Wednesday. Brigadier Wagdi Walran, head of criminal investigations in south Sinai, said the 11 Israelis and one American had permission to work in some Red Sea areas. But they were stopped Tuesday for visiting places not included in their permits, destroying coral reefs and taking coral, he said from Al Tor, south Sinai's capital 310 kilometres southeast of Cairo. One of the world's richest stores of brilliant coral and tropical fish rings the southern tip of the Biblical Sinai Peninsula. Most of it is protected under law.

Kashmiri militants free Israeli hostage

SRINAGAR, India (R) — Israeli Yair Yitzhaki, who escaped one group of Kashmiri kidnappers only to run into arms of other separatist abductors, was freed Wednesday, a U.N. representative said. The representative said Yitzhaki arrived at a United Nations mission in Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar. He told Reuters: "Mr. Yitzhaki is inside," adding that he was safe and well. No further details of Yitzhaki's release by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) were immediately available.

Mitterrand to visit Iran in autumn

PARIS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand has accepted an invitation to visit Iran from President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and will travel to Tehran in the autumn, French officials said Wednesday. Mr. Mitterrand will be the first Western head of state, apart from Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, to pay an official visit to Tehran since the 1979 Islamic revolution. No firm date has yet been fixed, they said. The invitation was delivered to Mr. Mitterrand Wednesday by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, now in Paris to negotiate the final points of an agreement on an 11-year-old financial dispute between France and Iran.

Iran protests attack on Velayati's car

NICOSIA (R) — Iran complained to Switzerland Wednesday about Iranian dissidents who attacked Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati's car at a Geneva hotel last week, the Iranian news agency IRNA said. Foreign Ministry Director General Hamid Aschi summoned Swiss Charge d'Affaires Daniel Biller and told him Swiss officials had failed to take appropriate security measures for Mr. Velayati and his aides on June 26, IRNA said. Mr. Biller said the Swiss government regretted the incident and hoped it would not affect relations, it added. About 30 demonstrators cornered an Iranian embassy limousine, pelted it with eggs and smashed two of its windows in the underground car park of the hotel where Mr. Velayati was due to hold a news conference. Mr. Velayati cancelled the conference and told reporters in Tehran Saturday he had not been in the car at the time.

Cabinet faces tough task, but seen able to pass Parliament test

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Taher Masi's government will present its policy statement to the Lower House of Parliament next week along with a historic announcement lifting 23 years of martial law in the country. Based on this statement the government will seek a vote of confidence the result of which observers generally believe is likely to be in favour of Mr. Masi and his team.

Sources confirmed that the extraordinary session of Parliament will open Saturday and the government will present the House with its policy statement Wednesday.

Practically speaking, the government is not yet sure of a majority, since a large number of independent deputies are either undecided or waiting to see the policy statement and due to the fact that some parliamentary blocs have not made up their mind.

Mr. Masi and his cabinet, sources say, realise the weight that their policy statement will carry in influencing the way in which votes will

be cast and much debate inside the Cabinet and outside has taken place over the wording and the policies to be contained in the statement on voting for or opposing the government.

The lifting of martial law once and for all has already been decided by the Cabinet although the sources say that there are ministers who argued against the quick adoption of such a measure in the absence of civil laws which would cover the vacuum which would result from this move.

One source said that some ministers argued that since martial law was used by the executive authority for 23 years, many civil laws which would have been enacted to cover cases of financial corruption, land use and economic security.

However, sources confirmed that the government has taken a decision in favour of ending martial law in Jordan and that it has also started working on enacting a temporary law which would cover monetary and financial decisions which were taken by the Economic Security Committee and have no legal cover in civil laws; more precisely the Petra Bank case. Many deputies, including some who are ministers in Mr. Masi's government, insisted on lifting martial law as a precondition to vote confidence in the government.

A cabinet minister said a special committee was working on a "quick temporary law to cover this particular issue." He added that the judicial authority will be called upon to work very quickly to deal with all other difficulties which may arise from this move.

Asked whether the government would be realistically able to enact a law within the few days left before the projected announcement of lifting martial law, the minister said that "the government, if unable to prepare the law in time, would announce the decision to lift martial law but would throw the ball in the House's court by timing its application with the approval of the temporary law by the deputies."

But the more pressing and controversial part of the policy statement, and the one which would affect the voting of the Muslim Brotherhood and Arab nationalists in the House, is the government's position towards the Middle East peace process.

According to sources, the Cabinet is still debating its statement on the peace process and towards negotiations to solve the Palestinian problem and the wider Arab-Israeli conflict.

(Continued on page 5)

Lebanese troops bombard Mieh Mieh, 'Ain Al Hilweh

SIDON (Agencies) — Lebanese troops bombed Palestinian fighters cornered in two packed refugee camps on Wednesday, trapping terrified women and children.

As the battle escalated in late afternoon, shells from tanks and long-range field guns poured into Mieh Mieh camp east of Sidon at rates of up to eight a minute.

The nearby 'Ain Al Hilweh camp was also under bombardment as thousands of defiant Palestinian fighters, outnumbered and outgunned, fought a rearguard action against the army.

At least 12 people were killed. Palestinian civilians, many shielding children, crouched in the alleyways of the camps, normally home to 65,000 refugees.

Police said three civilians were killed and nine hurt when a mortar, apparently fired by the army, hit a school in Sidon.

The casualties raised the toll in three days of battles to 36 killed and 81 wounded. Complete breakdowns were not immediately available, but at least two of the dead were soldiers and 25 were Palestinian guerrillas, police said.

The school was hit in an afternoon exchange that pitted army gunners in hills east of Sidon with Palestinian fighters in and around Mieh Mieh and 'Ain Al Hilweh.

Soldiers erected checkpoints every few metres on the main approaches to 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh, the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) power base in Lebanon.

The army units blocked roads with barbed wire, tightening the siege of the shantytowns, where 5,000 hardcore fighters are entrenched.

Army troops captured dozens of Palestinians in their purge Wednesday, raising the overall

figure of those seized since Tuesday to more than 300, police said. The bodies of two guerrillas, both wearing blue jeans and white running shoes lay on the side of a road on Ashrafieh Hill, the closest position to the refugee camps that has been taken by the army.

Shells killed four members of a family in 'Ain Al Hilweh and a mother and her baby in Sidon.

The Lebanese army said it did not want to enter Mieh Mieh and 'Ain Al Hilweh, only to silence the guns of guerrillas beaten back into the camps after losing nearby bases to the army on Tuesday.

The Palestinians, fighting to retain their last guerrilla stronghold close to Israeli lines, accused the army of attacking. They said they would not lay down arms because they needed them to protect the camps and confront

(Continued on page 5)

Algiers quiet, but unrest, arrests reported elsewhere

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Security forces continued to rout out Muslim fundamentalists, making 172 new arrests and uncovering caches of arms and supplies amid scattered clashes which left two more people dead, the military command announced Wednesday.

Authorities said that between Sunday and Tuesday there were 1,293 arrests following a crackdown on the leading fundamentalist party, whose top two leaders were arrested over the weekend.

Agitation by fundamentalists has left nearly 50 people dead since early June, when a state of emergency was declared.

The communiqué said caches of ammunition, medicine, military fatigues, Molotov cocktails and gasoline were found stocked in numerous mosques, town halls and local headquarters of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS). The fundamentalist party controls the majority of districts since winning local elections a year ago.

Four people, including a young girl and a soldier, died in clashes in the past two days, officials said.

The pockets of violence stretched around the country, from east to west, north to south, as the army carried out what appeared to be an operation to dismantle FIS, the leading opposition party.

The surge in violence around the country contrasted with a relative calm in Algiers following the crackdown.

The latest military commu-

que said one person died and three were injured in a skirmish early Wednesday in Medea, 100 kilometres west of Algiers, and a soldier was killed in a clash in Djelfa, 350 kilometres south of the capital. Ten people were injured in a clash in Guelma, 600 kilometres to the east, while a fourth clash injured eight in Mostaganem.

The overnight violence followed clashes in the ancient eastern town of Constantine, which left a young girl dead, the official APS news agency reported, quoting military sources. The agency said late Tuesday that fundamentalists attacking a police station there engaged in a four-hour confrontation with security forces.

Another person died in clashes in Jijel on Tuesday, APS said. Algerian Television reported four foreigners arrested in confrontations Monday in Annaba, another eastern city. It identified them only as two Palestinians, a Tunisian and a Libyan.

"Foreign powers are mixed up, through individuals or through direct assistance, in the destabilisation effort," Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali was quoted as saying in the newspaper El Moudjahid, close to the National Liberation Front (FLN) party which has ruled Algeria since its independence from France in 1962.

Officials have spoken of foreign involvement in a wave of protests by fundamentalists which led to the June 5 proclamation of a state of emergency.

Israeli soldier killed atop Hermon

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Guerrillas fired guns and law missiles Wednesday at an Israeli lookout post atop Mount Hermon near the Syrian frontier, killing an Israeli soldier, the military command said.

The guerrillas, who numbered at least two, were spotted fleeing towards Syria after the attack, the command added.

It was unclear whether there was any Syrian involvement in the attack.

The shooting came after Israeli troops reportedly killed five Arab guerrillas and wounded another in two separate attempts to infiltrate into Israel from Lebanon in the last two days.

Security sources said the attack occurred at 3 a.m. Military censors held up publication for several hours pending notification of the soldier's family.

It was the first death on Mount Hermon since the 1973 war and only the second incident along the occupied Golan Heights line, official military sources said.

It was news agency said the post was east of the point on Hermon, the region's highest mountain, where the borders of Syria, Lebanon and Israel meet.

The clash on Tuesday came as Lebanese government troops trying to extend the government's authority in the south battled Palestinian guerrillas.



CIRCASSIAN FESTIVAL: Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Wednesday attend the second Circassian Cultural Festival at the Palace of Culture (Petra photo).

Yugoslav army shuns appeals, moves towards rebel Slovenia

BELGRADE (Agencies) — Scores of federal tanks moved towards Croatia and troop movements were reported in Slovenia Wednesday. A Yugoslav general said troops had been ordered to fire only in self-defence.

No major confrontations with Slovene territorial forces were reported by late Wednesday afternoon. But the troop movements raised fears that the Serbian-dominated national army was preparing to take decisive action despite international pressure.

Both Croatia and Slovenia declared independence last week.

Gen. Andrija Raseta, deputy commander of federal forces in Slovenia, did not make clear in his ceasefire comment whether the army had fully accepted to a truce offered late Tuesday by Slovenian leaders.

Gen. Raseta did say the army command "only carried out legal decisions," denying speculation

of a military coup. "The army has no reason not to recognise Mesic and the presidency, who have been elected legally," Gen. Raseta said.

Croatian leader Stipe Mesic was named chairman of the federal assembly, with authority over the army, in an agreement meant to end the violence that followed the declarations of independence.

The army, however, slipping clear of government control and ignoring world appeals for restraint, headed for Slovenia through Croatia Wednesday after vowing to crush the Slovenian independence drive with a short, sharp war.

Fighting erupted again inside Slovenia with tanks and troops battling independence fighters as armoured columns with hundreds of tanks and other vehicles rumbled towards the Slovenian border.

There was no word on casualties. Air raid sirens wailed in

several cities but no attacks were reported.

The European Community, increasingly impatient with the run-away Yugoslav military and looking for a way to make peace efforts bite, said its foreign ministers would meet in the Hague Friday.

The 12 ministers will consider recognising Slovenia and Croatia if Belgrade does not stop hostilities, a Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

That would be a dramatic step breaking with decades of post-war diplomatic practice.

Western diplomats and military experts in Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia and also of the largest republic, Serbia, said the Yugoslav government had lost its grip on the army.

"The army is completely out of control. There has been in effect a coup d'etat," a Western military expert said.

U.N. halts nuclear checks in Iraq; Security Council to meet

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations has suspended its inspections of nuclear facilities in Iraq until the Security Council meets to discuss how Baghdad can be forced to give U.N. teams unlimited access, diplomats said Wednesday.

A high-level mission sent to Iraq by the Security Council has left the country to report to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the team of nuclear inspectors that searched unsuccessfully for uranium-enrichment equipment is also being pulled out, they said.

"I think the secretary-general felt they were getting nowhere," one envoy said.

Security Council members intend to meet once Rolf Ekeus, director of the U.N. Special Commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, returns to New York.

Mr. Ekeus met Mr. Perez de Cuellar in Geneva on Wednesday and is expected to address the 15-member council Friday.

He, Hans Blix, head of the International Atomic Energy

Agency (IAEA), and U.N. Undersecretary-General Yasushi Akashi concluded three days of inconclusive talks with Iraqi officials, including Prime Minister Saadoun Hammadi and Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz.

Mr. Blix told reporters in Baghdad before leaving that he was shown equipment relating to civilian nuclear research.

But diplomats in New York said he did not see the calutrons, World War II-era devices used to enrich uranium that can be turned into a nuclear explosive. U.N. inspection teams last week accused Iraq of trucking them away from an army base before they could be examined.

"We have not been given a satisfactory clarification of what was on the convoy," Mr. Blix said. "What we saw in the evening does not really solve the problem."

Mr. Ekeus in Baghdad said Iraqi officials had given the U.N. team "various assurances which have to be studied, assurances which need further clarification."

The Security Council deman-

ded last Friday that the three-man mission seek assurances U.N. inspectors would be given unlimited access to nuclear facilities and equipment.

The council met in emergency session after a 28-member team of nuclear specialists were delayed from searching an army base near Fallujah as well as the Abu Ghraib military complex where they believed the calutrons were stored.

The United States was threatened military action but the council is not expected to go that far at its meeting.

"But we clearly have got to get 'this right,'" said a British official. "If the special commission cannot carry out its work, there will be a lot of feeling that other ways should be found."

Iraq's newspapers, quoting a Foreign Ministry source, said the U.N. mission had been given "high-level assurances" that they could inspect whatever they wanted.

However, it appeared that many military commanders were not aware of these orders.

IPPNW urges end to sanctions on Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Nobel Peace Prize-winning group, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), has called on the United Nations to immediately lift all non-military economic sanctions against Iraq.

The call was contained in a resolution adopted by an IPPNW-organised conference in Stockholm this week.

A covering letter addressed to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar signed by Dr. Bernard Lown and Dr. Sergei Kolesnikov, co-presidents of the organisation, underlined that "children of Iraq are dying unnecessarily and we, as physicians, are writing to seek your immediate intervention."

"The conservative predictions of the Harvard Study

Team estimate that, without intervention, over 170,000 children under the age of five will die in the next twelve months," it said.

Food, medicines, water, sanitation, and electric power can prevent most of the deaths and disease that afflict families in Iraq, it said.

Quoting from resolutions adopted by the World Summit for Children held last year, the letter pointed out that it was a commitment of the international community to protect the rights of the child.

"The agencies of the United Nations are pledged to protect the rights of the child. Your agencies have the means readily at hand to repair the critical war damage and supply food and medicine," the letters said.

"Furthermore, Iraq possesses

the capacity to finance such a relief and rehabilitation programme. You must act with dispatch."

"Above all, we must remind you and all the world leaders who signed the declaration and plan of action that it would be shamefully soon, and truly obscene to violate the mandate of the World Summit for Children by failing to protect children and families in Iraq," it said.

Following is the full text of the IPPNW resolution.

"Recognising that economic sanctions in the aftermath of the Gulf war are causing intense suffering to the children and people of Iraq.

The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW): Affirms its support for cur-

PLO holds urgent talks in Tunis

AMMAN (J.T.) — Six members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Executive Committee left Amman Wednesday to attend an emergency meeting of the committee under the chairmanship of PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Tunis.

Sources close to the PLO said that the six members, some of whom are based in Amman and others who were here to attend the funeral of fellow member Abdul Rahim Ahmad, were called to attend the meeting which is expected to discuss the results of talks that Palestinian representatives held in Washington and Moscow recently.

Two West Bank Palestinian personalities who have acted as official spokespersons for the Palestinians under occupation since the 43-month-old intifada began, Faisal Hussein and Hanan Ashrawi, met with Secretary of State James Baker in Washington Tuesday.

PLO executive member Mahmoud Abbas, the PLO's troubleshooter, met with Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh several days ago to be briefed about the Soviet position on the peace process.

Stalled peace efforts were expected to be the focus of the PLO's Executive Committee's meeting in light of recent statements made by President George Bush in which he strongly indicated that he might issue invitations for a peace conference.

In Washington, Mr. Hussein said after Tuesday's meeting with Mr. Baker that he and Mrs. Ashrawi had underlined the role of the PLO in any peace process.

Mr. Hussein also accused Israeli soldiers of disguising themselves as Palestinians to kill Palestinians.

Mrs. Ashrawi said she and Mr. Hussein called on Mr. Baker "to pursue matters that had to be pursued relating to the peace process."

Mr. Baker is trying to engage Palestinians in a willingness to negotiate with Israel parallel to the talks he hopes to set up between Israel and Arab governments.

He praised Saudi Arabia for agreeing to sit down with Israel to talk about water resources, the environment and arms deliveries to the Middle East. "It is a rather significant step forward," Mr. Baker said.

The Saudis are not willing to participate in peace talks, however. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Mr. Hussein and Mrs. Ashrawi requested the meeting with Mr. Baker during a visit to the U.S.

Mr. Baker has met with the two on at least four previous occasions, including two, during visits to the Middle East.

Ms. Tutwiler described their talks as "an ongoing discussion and a review of where we are."

The spokeswoman was asked about a wire service report that quoted an unnamed senior State Department official as saying the department has decided to let the Middle East peace process drift.

"I don't remember the official saying that a decision has been made to let the Middle East drift," she replied. "We right now are and have been waiting for a response from President (Hafez Al) Assad of Syria."

Ms. Tutwiler said, noting that President Bush wrote to the Syrian leader more than a month ago.

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Rabat, Tunis fear Algerian fundamentalism could spread

Wary Maghreb states avoid public comment

By Abdul Aziz Barrouhi
Reuter

TUNIS — Morocco and Tunisia have studiously avoided any public pronouncement on events in neighbouring Algeria, fearing Islamic fundamentalism could prove contagious if given the chance to thrive.

North African states had kept a close eye on President Chadli Benjedid's efforts to hold parliamentary elections, the region's first experiment in multi-party democracy.

Violent protests by fundamentalists demanding an Islamic state led Mr. Benjedid June 5 to declare a state of siege and postpone polling.

On Sunday, Algerian security forces seized Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) leaders Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj on charges of organising and leading armed conspiracy against the state.

Prime Minister Sid Ahmad Ghozali said they would stand trial soon.

Algeria legalised political parties in 1989 to the concern of Rabat and Tunis, which have suppressed their own fundamentalist movements.

The Tunisian government has made no comment on the crisis but privately, officials make no secret of their wish to see the Algerian government take the upper hand.

Officials who congratulated themselves when the FIS demonstrations began for crushing their own fundamentalist movement are now expressing satisfaction that Algeria has finally followed the Tunisian example.

Hundreds of members of Tunisia's Nahdha movement have

been arrested in recent months on suspicion of planning a coup.

"A strong FIS in Algeria means political and logistical support for Tunisia's fundamentalist Nahdha movement. In fact, the fate of the whole of the Maghreb and the future of democracy in the area depends on Algeria," said a Tunis-based diplomat.

The Independent Tunisian Daily Le Temps Wednesday spoke of "the energetic reaction of the Algerian authorities" to the FIS which it said had the "deliberate plan of imposing its views by violence, attempts at destabilisation and armed plot."

"The firmness with which the Algerian authorities have tackled the situation leaves in no doubt their determination to follow unwaveringly the path of the democratic process."

Morocco outlawed its Al Adl Wal Ihsan movement in January last year and jailed six of its leaders for two years each for belonging to an illegal organisation.

Morocco's opposition newspapers have given extensive front-page coverage to the Algerian crackdown. Pro-government dailies have published brief reports on inside pages without any editorial comment.

The Communist Daily Al Bayane, published by the Party of Progress and Socialism, has been the only paper to criticise the FIS.

"The perilous situation developing on our frontier is cause for reflection," it said in an editorial. "Physical or verbal violence is not a legitimate weapon in the civic combat. The call for a jihad (holy war) against other Muslims is not in the progressive vocabulary."

A summit due to be held in Libya has twice been postponed and the next meeting, due to take place in Mauritania in early July, is also in doubt.

Ministerial meetings are continuing more or less regularly "but their heart isn't in it, everyone seems preoccupied by their internal problems," said one participant.

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A Moroccan political analyst who asked not to be named said King Hassan, who held talks with President Benjedid in May, strongly opposed Muslim fundamentalism.

"For the king, Muslim extremists are intolerant and retrograde and anti-democratic. He believes they have no place in a multi-party system like Morocco where all the parties are Muslim," he said.

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said the West's repeated calls on Third World countries to adopt multi-party systems were indirectly responsible for Algeria's political crisis.

"The Europeans must be laughing (at what is happening in Algeria) and saying Alhamdulillah (thanks to God)," he told a rally in the Sudanese capital Monday in an address reported by the Libyan news agency.

"Pluralism is a conspiracy by neo-colonialists," he said. "Algeria is an example. It is now totally crippled with 40 parties fighting for power."

Diplomats say the events in Algeria are also hampering the development of the Arab Maghreb Union, which groups Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Mauritania.

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Within hours of the start of the air war against Iraq last January, the Pentagon knew it had a problem — bunkers were strong enough to withstand U.S. bombs.

Air Force Major Richard Wright, in charge of finding a new weapon, said military analysts had initially hoped multiple hits would break through the deeply buried, reinforced bunkers.

"We suspected we might have trouble with some areas," Maj. Wright said. "We dropped existing bombs on the targets, multiple hits, and that didn't work as well as we'd hoped."

So an emergency effort began in secrecy to build a bigger bomb. "There was a lot of scepticism," Maj. Wright said. "That we could build in 30 days what would in peace time normally take two or three years."

After a test in the Nevada desert, the bomb was filled with molten explosives and shipped. Less than four hours after arriving in Saudi Arabia, it had destroyed the bunker.

Chemicals and CIA

The United States knew about a U.S. chemical plant set up in Florida to produce cyanide compounds for Iraq that could be made into deadly chemical weapons but took no action, ABC television reported Tuesday.

Neither the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) nor the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) took action against the plant until March 1991 although it had been in operation in the southern state for three years, the report said.

A principal investor was Iraqi businessman Ihsan Barbuti, who died in July 1990. His partner Louis Champon told ABC the plant was set up to produce cherry flavouring from apricot pits, a by-product of which was a non-toxic form of cyanide.

Mr. Champon said Mr. Barbuti was interested only in the cyanide by-product. He also said 900 kilograms of the cyanide had been taken out of the plant.

A small amount of cyanide was shipped to Iraq, according to information provided to the network by two arms dealers and shippers.

Mr. Williams said commerce

and agriculture are returning to normal, with the grain elevator at Zakho making it possible for all grain to be harvested.

Traffic along the roads around Zakho and Dohuk was brisk, petrol was cheap, electric power was largely restored, schools and hospitals were functioning, shops were open and food was plentiful and reasonable in price, Mr. Williams said.

He did not say when or if U.S. forces in the area would leave, and said that U.S. Undersecretary of Defence Paul Wolfowitz had just met with officials in Turkey on questions of long-term security in the region.

Asked about the row with Iraq over United Nations' inspection of possible nuclear sites, Mr. Williams said the matter continued to be of concern.

"We still think that Iraq is clearly trying to hide something," he said. "It's very clear that the U.N. resolutions require the government of Iraq to permit these inspections and they need to come into conformance with these resolutions."

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'Superbomb' destroyed Iraqi bunkers

DALLAS (R) — In the Gulf war's last hours, the United States in total secrecy unleashed a new weapon to destroy Iraq's toughest bunkers — a laser-guided, earth-penetrating superbomb made out of a Howitzer barrel and weighing more than two tonnes.

The bomb, called a GBU-28, was five times more powerful than any non-nuclear weapon previously built. It was just hours old when dropped on Iraq's strongest underground fortress and its designers had their fingers crossed that it would work.

The new bomb, built at breakneck speed by Lockheed Missiles and Space Company and Texas Instruments Incorporated in an unprecedented team effort, was dropped from an F-111 onto a command complex at Al Taji air base north of Baghdad.

The complex, known as Taji Bunker Number One, had been hit numerous times and emerged unscathed. Even 907 kilogramme BLU-109 bombs had failed.

But the 2,132 kilogramme superbomb — a Howitzer barrel filled with explosives and guided by a laser — penetrated the massive concrete walls and blew up inside the bunker, destroying what Iraq believed to be an impenetrable fortress.

The full story of the bomb has only slowly become known as the U.S. air force removed some of the secrecy imposed during the war.

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Mr. Champon said Mr. Barbuti was interested only in the cyanide by-product. He also said 900 kilograms of the cyanide had been taken out of the plant.

A small amount of cyanide was shipped to Iraq, according to information provided to the network by two arms dealers and shippers.

Mr. Williams said commerce

and agriculture are returning to normal, with the grain elevator at Zakho making it possible for all grain to be harvested.

Traffic along the roads around Zakho and Dohuk was brisk, petrol was cheap, electric power was largely restored, schools and hospitals were functioning, shops were open and food was plentiful and reasonable in price, Mr. Williams said.

He did not say when or if U.S. forces in the area would leave, and said that U.S. Undersecretary of Defence Paul Wolfowitz had just met with officials in Turkey on questions of long-term security in the region.

Asked about the row with Iraq over United Nations' inspection of possible nuclear sites, Mr. Williams said the matter continued to be of concern.

"We still think that Iraq is clearly trying to hide something," he said. "It's very clear that the U.N. resolutions require the government of Iraq to permit these inspections and they need to come into conformance with these resolutions."

Mr. Williams said commerce

Israel will not dismantle occupied area in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel cannot dismantle its buffer zone in South Lebanon despite the Lebanese army's campaign to gain control of the region from Palestinian forces, according to Israeli officials and military experts.

The statements came as Israeli soldiers patrolling the zone clashed with Lebanese guerrillas for a second straight day Tuesday.

An army statement said unidentified guerrillas suffered two dead and one wounded in the "security zone" clash Tuesday afternoon. There were no Israeli casualties. No further details were given.

A military aide to Israel's coordinator for Lebanon, Ori Lubrani, said Israel's army would continue attacks on guerrillas in South Lebanon even within areas where the Lebanese army has moved in troops.

"We have reacted and we will react against... bases within the Lebanese army's area of deployment," the official, identified only as Col. R., told Israeli army radio.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens expressed hope that the Lebanese army deployment would not endanger the buffer zone, adding: "We have heard declarations from the Lebanese government that they plan to disarm the (resistance) groups. But so far we have not seen it. On the contrary, every day there are attempts to infiltrate into Israel."

When the planned Lebanese deployment was announced months ago, officials said that Israel would not dismantle its buffer zone until Lebanon could

ensure an end to attacks on Israel's border.

Several legislators and military officers interviewed Tuesday by Israeli media belittled the Lebanese army's ability to control resistance fighters in the region.

Yehoshua Saguy, a former army intelligence chief and legislator of the right-wing Likud bloc, said the Lebanese army's move would be more harmful than helpful to the "security" of Israel's northern border.

"It pushes the (fighters) to the south, and the reason for their being is to act against Israel," he told the state-run radio.

Former Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a leader of the opposition Labour Party, pointed to a clash with suspected infiltrators just north of the border Monday as a sign that the Lebanese army could not block attacks on Israel. In the clash, three armed Lebanese were killed and two Israeli soldiers were wounded.

"The main guarantee for ensuring guerrillas cannot infiltrate is the 'security zone'," Mr. Rabin said, referring to the 1,000 square kilometres of South Lebanon that Israel controls.

Israel has controlled parts of South Lebanon since 1978, and several U.N. Security Council resolutions have called for Israeli forces to withdraw.

The current zone was set up in 1985 when Israel ended a three-year occupation that began with the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. The zone is patrolled by about 3,000 Israeli-backed militiamen and some 1,000 Israeli soldiers.

Five major arms sellers to discuss Mideast controls

PARIS (AP) — Officials of the five biggest weapons-selling nations will meet here next week to begin drafting a code limiting arms sales to the Middle East, the Foreign Ministry said.

The United States, The Soviet Union, France, China and Britain — which supply an estimated 85 per cent of the Middle East's arms — will participate in the meeting Monday and Tuesday, said ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard.

France suggested the meeting in early June when it proposed a global arms control plan. French and Western officials said Tuesday.

That the initial discussions would focus on an initiative by President George Bush's aimed specifically at the Middle East. Mr. Bernard said the meeting would be the first of several, and

U.S.: Last Iraqi refugee camp to close by July end

WASHINGTON (R) — The last camp for Gulf war refugees in Iraq should be empty by the end of July as life and commerce return to normal in the coalition-guarded "security zone," the Defence Department said Tuesday.

"The European command, based on talking to the people who are administering the humanitarian aid there, now expect that the one remaining refugee camp at Zakho will be vacant by the end of July," Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said.

He said about 13,000 refugees are at the Zakho camp now, with more than 3,500 coalition military personnel in northern Iraq, including 1,450 U.S. troops.

He said the International Rescue Committee and Care international, two of the chief relief agencies working in the area, have given notice that their mission will be complete by July 31.

However, some of the 16 other volunteer organisations, primarily medical assistance agencies, will stay on past that date, Mr. Williams said.

Mr. Williams said commerce

and agriculture are returning to normal, with the grain elevator at Zakho making it possible for all grain to be harvested.

Traffic along the roads around Zakho and Dohuk was brisk, petrol was cheap, electric power was largely restored, schools and hospitals were functioning, shops were open and food was plentiful and reasonable in price, Mr. Williams said.

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Mr. Williams said commerce

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Nosair's lawyers withdraw insanity defence

NEW YORK (R) — Lawyers for El Sayyid Nosair, the man accused of assassinating Israeli extremist leader Meir Kahane, said Tuesday they have evidence of Mr. Nosair's innocence and withdrew his application to plead not guilty by reason of insanity. "After many consultations with our client and seeing what the evidence is, we think it would be incompatible to pursue such a defence," said William Kunstler, one of Mr. Nosair's defence attorneys. Speaking to reporters outside Manhattan Supreme Court, Mr. Kunstler said Mr. Nosair's lawyers had last week filed an intent to offer an insanity defence to protect the accused's "rights of every defence. If you don't do it, you lose it... we never argued he was insane." The lawyers said they have evidence that one of the individuals involved in shooting a postal inspector after Kahane was killed in a Manhattan hotel Nov. 5, 1990, was a Jewish man wearing a yarmulke. The lawyers contend that the man with the skull cap "most likely" shot the rabbi. Police contend that both men were shot by Mr. Nosair, an Egyptian-born Palestinian, and court papers said a skull cap was found in Mr. Nosair's pocket when he was arrested after a shootout near the scene of the killing. The prosecution says it has 16 witnesses who will testify that Mr. Nosair shot rabbi Kahane. Mr. Nosair's trial is scheduled to begin Oct. 2.

Jalloud met with Rifaat Assad on hostages

MADRID (R) — Muammar Qadhafi's right-hand man met last month in Spain with the brother of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to try to hasten the release of three British hostages held in Lebanon, a newspaper said Wednesday. The leading independent daily El Pais said Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, on his first visit to Spain in 22 years, met twice with Rifaat Assad, who is also Syrian vice-president, in the Mediterranean resort town of Marbella where the Libyan was on vacation. The paper, which did not cite sources, said the Libyan urged Mr. Assad to use Syrian influence in Lebanon to hasten the release of Terry Waite, John McCarthy and Jack Mann, for which Libya would share some of the credit. Rifaat Assad reportedly spends most of his time outside Syria. He owns a house in Marbella. Mr. Assad reportedly reminded Maj. Jalloud that the British hostages were not in Syrian hands. The paper linked the two meetings with Libya's attempt to improve its relations with European Community nations, and Britain in particular. The EC maintains a partial embargo of Libya, in place since 1986, which mainly affects arms sales.

Mediator wants unconditional Afghan talks

KABUL (R) — A Swiss official who has offered his government's mediation to end the 13-year Afghan civil war said Tuesday peace talks between the warring parties would have to take place without preconditions. Minister of State for External Affairs Klaus Jacoby told a news conference there could be no solution to the conflict without the involvement of Afghan President Najibullah. "And equally (there can be) no solution only with the president," he said before leaving for Pakistan at the end of a three-day visit to Kabul. He later met President Najibullah who said Kabul would welcome any effort to end the war, official Kabul Radio said. The broadcast, monitored in the Pakistan capital Islamabad, quoted Mr. Najibullah as telling Mr. Jacoby that the Swiss government was playing "a good role" for a political solution of the Afghan question.

French left seeks release of Moroccan prisoners

PARIS (R) — French left-wing and human rights organisations have called on the government to work for the release of political detainees in Morocco. A spokeswoman for the 50 groups said Tuesday France should use the right of "humanitarian interference" which was invoked by Western countries to help Kurdish refugees. The groups, gathered in an "appeal for human rights in Morocco," said there were 828 political detainees in Morocco, including about 30 former military men held since attempted coups against King Hassan in 1971 and 1972. No comment was immediately available from the Moroccan embassy. King Hassan set up a human rights consultative council in 1990 to investigate alleged abuses.

Major committed to seeking Briton's release

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister John Major Tuesday met the wife of a British businessman jailed in Iraq and pledged to do all he could to work for his release. Shirley Richter's meeting with Mr. Major and an earlier one with Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd were in preparation for her trip to Baghdad this weekend to visit her husband Ian, 45, who was given a life sentence in 1986 for alleged bribery. In the 20-minute meeting Mr. Major "expressed his sympathy and undertook to continue doing all he could to secure the release of her husband," an official said. Iraq granted Mrs. Richter a visa last month to visit her husband and she is due to leave Saturday. The government says Mr. Richter's imprisonment is an obstacle to British support of any moves to ease U.N. sanctions against Iraq or consider lifting a freeze on Iraqi assets held in Britain.

Shamir aide nominated as envoy to Italy

TEL AVIV (AP) — Avi Pazner, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's media adviser, has been nominated as Israel's next ambassador to Italy, foreign ministry officials said Wednesday. Mr. Pazner, a career foreign service man, would replace Ambassador Mordechai Drori, who has not yet been named to a new post. Mr. Pazner's appointment was expected to take effect in October. The 54-year-old Pazner was the foreign ministry spokesman 10 years ago when Mr. Shamir held the foreign portfolio. When Mr. Shamir became prime minister, Mr. Pazner was named his media adviser. Other ambassadors named by the ministry's appointments committee were Meidad Medina in Ecuador, Aryeh Oded in Kenya, Michael Peled in Swaziland, and Yaakov Topaz in Togo. Gideon Meir was appointed consul in London. All the positions require cabinet approval.

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Orient Express Ltd.
Travel & Tourism

اورينت اكسبرس للسياحة / فؤاد قعوار
تعلن عن برنامج رحلاته الشقية لصف ١٩٩١

١. اليونان
* جزيرة الورد (روفي) رحلات مباشرة خاصة كل يوم جمعة
٧/١٢ ٧/٥
الآلة في فنادق سياحية وخدمات نجوم - جراندامير - رومس بالاس.
٧/١٢ ٧/٥

٢. رحلات كل يوم جمعة الى كورفو وميكانيوس

٣. اسبانيا
رحلة لمدة ١٢ يوما تتضمن زيارة الأندلس / ملقا / ومدريد يوم ٧/٦

٤. ايطاليا
كل يوم احد زيارة روما / فينيس / فلورنس / كابري

٥. اسطنبول وقبرص اسوعيا

٦. رحلة خاصة الى النمسا / شمال ايطاليا وسويسرا

٧. رحلة خاصة الى اليونان وتركيا ٧/١٢

٨. رحلة خاصة الى لبنان ٧/٥ ٧/٢٠

٩. اتينا والجزر كل يوم جمعة

١٠. رحلات الى اتينا وكورفو ٧/٥

١١. بلغاريا رحلات مباشرة كل يوم جمعة بطائرة شارتر من ٧/٥

جميع الرحلات على متن طائرات الملكية الأردنية

لمزيد من المعلومات والحجز يرجى الاتصال بمكاتبنا في ساحة مشن رجيني بالاس
أو على الهاتف رقم ٦٢٢٠١٠٠ / ٦٢٢٠١٠٠ أو رقم تلکس ٦٢٣١١

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Snorky
18:30 Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Documentary
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Day By Day
21:10 Deadly Intentions
22:00 News in English
22:20 Movie of the week

PRAYER TIMES

05:52 Fajr
07:27 (Sunrise) Duha
12:30 Dhuhr
15:19 'Asr
19:50 Maghrib
21:25 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedeth
Tel. 817/40
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
627/85
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624/90.
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
637/40.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terranova Church Tel. 622/66

Church of the Annunciation Tel.
623/41.

Anglican Church Tel. 623/83. Tel.
628/43.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
713/31.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
725/61.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 717/51.

St. George International Church Tel.
827/81. 685/326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
811/25.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints Tel. 623/84 and 654/52.

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675/691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

Normal summer weather will prevail
and winds will be northwesterly mod-
erate. In Aqaba, winds will be north-
westerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 17 / 32

Aqaba 24 / 37

Deserts 21 / 38

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Jordan Valley 23 / 37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-
man 32, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings:
Amman 30 per cent, Aqaba 40 per
cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Adnan Al Zughoul 898/40

Dr. Mufed Tannous 884/80

Dr. Ahmad Al Dagen 676/73

Dr. Mohammad Abu Malfouz 793/64

Firas pharmacy 661/912

Ferdows pharmacy 778/36

Al Asena pharmacy 637/55

Nairooh pharmacy 623/72

Al Salam pharmacy 636/70

Yaouab pharmacy 644/45

Shmssani pharmacy 637/60

AMMAN:

Queen inaugurates special education centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein, Wednesday, opened Al Amal Special Education Centre in Aydon, near Irbid, and inspected its various activities and services for handicapped children.

The centre has special facilities for the handicapped children in addition to a physiotherapy unit and modern classrooms.

The Queen, who was accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal and other officials, was briefed by the executive president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), which is running the centre.

The executive president, Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, said that the centre was one of a series of facilities being opened in the Kingdom for the care of the

handicapped children between six and 12 years old.

The Aydon centre is one of nine similar centres, seven of which have already been set up. Work on one of the remaining two centres, located in Salt, is still underway, while work will begin on the Tafleh Centre during 1991, Mr. Khatib said.

Only children with relatively moderate disabilities are being accepted in the Aydon and the other centres, each of which accommodates 50 children. The handicapped children receive special training designed to develop their skills to enable them to become self-supportive.

Prominent personalities from the Irbid area, including the president of Yarmouk University and the Irbid mayor, were present at the ceremony.

Cabinet names 5 envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has appointed Mr. Adnan Talhouni as Jordan's ambassador to Morocco, Mr. Nayef Mula ambassador to Brazil, Mr. Walid Bataineh ambassador to Iraq, Mr. Haidar Mahmoud ambassador to Tunisia and Mr. Farouk Qasrawi non-resident ambassador to the Philippines and Korea.

In another development, the Cabinet announced a new committee to supervise the restoration of Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock in Jerusalem. The committee, which will be chaired by the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, is to include representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Foreign Ministry's Department for Palestinian Affairs, the Royal Commission for Jerusalem Affairs and the director of the Awqaf Department in Jerusalem.

The Cabinet also decided that Jordan should take part in the 25th Tripoli International Fair, to be held next year in the Libyan capital. The fair will be held between March 5 and March 25.

The Cabinet said that participation in the Libyan fair was deemed necessary in view of the

close economic cooperation between Libya and Jordan and the marketing of Jordanian products in Libyan markets.

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Prince Hassan urges use of zakat to boost Muslim solidarity

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has urged Muslim scholars to utilise zakat (alms to the poor) in a manner that would enhance solidarity among members of the Muslim community and end such chronic ills as poverty, ignorance and disease that have been plaguing the Islamic society.

In a message to the eighth conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al Al Bayt Foundation), the Crown Prince said that the world community had done nothing to deal with such prob-

lems and had watched numerous societies fall below the poverty line.

The world community's inaction has exacerbated the sufferings of millions of people facing poverty and a contaminated environment.

"The time has come for Muslim scholars to stimulate the process of enhancing solidarity among the members of the Muslim community through the proper application of zakat," the Crown Prince said. "For this to be achieved, a special Islamic fund to help relieve Muslim com-

munities facing natural and man-made disasters should be set up, the Crown Prince said.

In his message, the Crown Prince called on Muslim scholars to turn their attention to proper education for the young generation who should be prepared to accept the idea of building bridges of understanding with other nations to narrow the gap among nations of various faiths, policies, interests, ideologies and cultures.

Prince Hassan said that the Islamic World is now in dire need of a new approach in dealing with

other nations. This approach should lay the foundation for new relations among nations of the world, giving special attention to the information services which help promote coexistence and harmony among people, the Prince said.

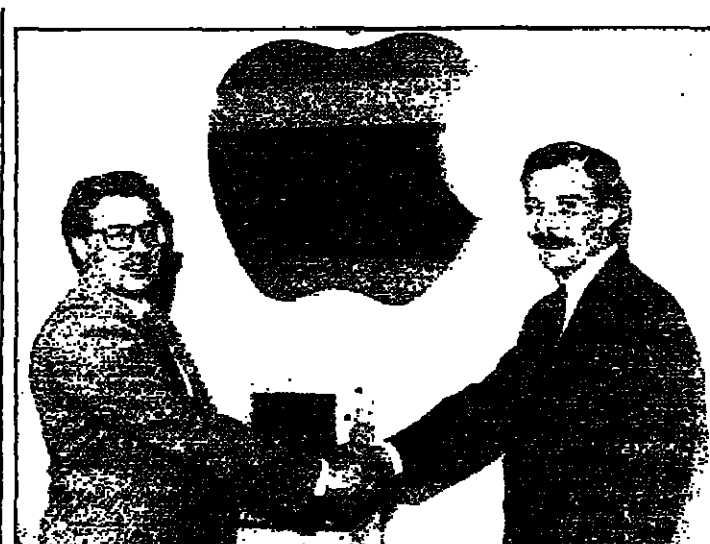
He said that the information services and the media could play a major role in removing all accusations, distortions and bad images in Western minds about the Muslim person who has been pictured as a terrorist, backward, intent only on satisfying his own desires and whims.

Libyans facilitated entry to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is offering facilities to Libyan nationals entering the Kingdom by immediately issuing them visas at Jordanian embassies abroad and ports of entry, according to a Jordan News Agency, Petra, announcement.

The announcement quoted Minister of Interior Jawdat Esboul as saying that Libyans wishing to come to Jordan will be issued visas at the Jordanian embassies or Jordanian airports, sea ports or border posts without referring their applications to the Interior Ministry in Amman.

The move was seen as a sign of the progressive improvement in relations between Jordan and Libya which restored diplomatic relations last year following a break of several years. Relations were initially discontinued because of a fire at Jordan's Embassy in Tripoli in 1983 during disturbances over Middle East policies.



LUCKY NUMBER 1399 WINS APPLE MACINTOSH: Mr. Tareef Nabeel was the lucky winner last week when he won an Apple Macintosh during Apple Expo '91 that was held at the Amman Marriott. The drawing of the prize was sponsored by Apple's authorised dealer, Ideal Systems.

More Palestinians in Israeli prisons join hunger strike

By Odeh Odeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Detainees in one more Israeli jails, totalling around 4,000 Palestinians, have joined an open hunger strike staged by other prisoners and detainees in four prisons. At least two other jails, those in Nabulus and Juneid, are expected to join the strike soon.

The new addition is Ansar 3 in the Naqab (the southern desert areas of occupied Palestine), according to Palestinian sources.

They said that the other jails whose detainees are on strike are those of Nabha, Asqalan, Ramleh and Hebron. The strike has been continuing for the past 12 days. The hunger strike was started

by detainees in the Nabha prison in protest against the inhuman treatment of the prisoners and the atrocities committed by the Israeli authorities in a bid to stifle the Palestine national movement.

A group of Palestinians staged a sit-in at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Amman Tuesday in support of the Palestinian prisoners, demanding better treatment. They presented a memorandum to the ICRC representative in Jordan protesting the inhuman treatment of the Palestinian detainees at the hand of the Israeli authorities.

The memorandum said that more than 18,000 Palestinian prisoners and detainees were on hunger strike in Israeli jails. A similar sit-in was held at the

ICRC in Jerusalem, Gaza, Nabulus and Hebron by relatives of the detainees and representatives of the professional unions in the occupied Arab territories.

Israel has set up more than 47 detention camps and jails for the Palestinians who staged their first general hunger strike at Asqalan prison in 1970 for 60 days. That was followed by a hunger strike at Nabha in 1980, lasting 30 days, and one at Juneid in 1987 lasting over 20 days.

The memorandum submitted to the ICRC offices said that the Palestinian detainees were not given enough food and cells lacked essential materials for personal hygiene. It also said that the detainees were constantly tortured.

Ministry to help economy class hotels have a facelift

AMMAN (J.T.) — Economy class hotels in downtown Amman and in other cities will benefit from a set of measures to be taken by the Ministry of Tourism which is keen on boosting the tourism industry in Jordan.

The new minister of tourism, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Kabarti, said Wednesday that a special credit fund would be established to offer loans to the economy class and cheap hotels enabling them to carry out renovation work to attract more visitors to Jordan. The pledge came at a meeting the minister had with owners of economy class hotels during which several issues pertaining to hotel business were reviewed.

The Ministry of Tourism will also study the prospect of reducing the water and electricity charges for these hotels and will, in cooperation with the Amman Municipality, help them set up special areas for cars transporting tourists to and from hotels, Mr. Kabarti said.

The minister listened to complaints raised by the hotel owners which, among other things, in-

cluded the high fares charged by taxi drivers. The minister promised to take up this issue with the Public Security Department and the drivers' union to find a solution.

Mr. Kabarti announced that the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities would soon issue a tourist guidebook for economy class hotels and would distribute leaflets to help attract more visitors to Jordan.

"In cooperation with the concerned authorities, the ministry plans to help reduce water and electricity charges for these hotels and will seek the assistance of the Ministry of Labour to facilitate the employment of non-Jordanian workers in economy class hotels," the minister said.

Ministry Secretary General Mr. Nassir Atallah and the Jordan Hotels Association President Mr. Michael Nazzari were present at the meeting.

Earlier, the Ministry of Tourism reached agreement with Royal Jordanian (RJ) to initiate joint plans designed to attract more tourists to the Kingdom.

Out of \$107m Italian assistance, \$55m will help implement 14 projects

Italy to help the Kingdom implement development projects

By Serena Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An Italian team has arrived in Jordan to start work on three development projects, as part of the \$107 million assistance aid package pledged by the Italian government to Jordan.

An agreement signed on June 12, was the first of its kind between the two countries. Under the terms of the agreement, the Italian government would allocate grants totalling \$55 million in the form of technical assistance for the implementation of 14 development projects.

The mission arrived in Jordan on June 27. It comprises five experts from the Italian company COTECNO. The company is a private company, recognised by the Italian government, that carries out technical assistance projects in the Middle East, Africa, Central and South America.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, two of the five experts spoke about the three projects their company had undertaken under the directive of the Italian Foreign Ministry. The projects are: the expansion of the Salt Handicraft School, a project to rehabilitate the hearing impaired and children with speech problems and technical assistance to the Amman University College for Applied Engineering.

Diego Assennato, the production director of COTECNO, said that the Salt Hand-

icraft School project started in 1988. "One year later the Noor Al Hussein Foundation got involved," Mr. Assennato said. "We provided technical assistance in two sectors: weaving and pottery," he added.

Mr. Assennato said that after the completion of the first phase of the project the Jordanian government asked for more assistance to expand the handicraft school. "The new phase has two parts: the first is supplying more equipment, experts, training and scholarships to the school, especially in the fields of weaving and pottery; the second involves developing new sectors such as jewellery design, glass work, and metal work," he said.

Mr. Assennato added that there were plans in store to provide the Jordanian government with assistance in restoring old buildings in Salt, along with providing technical assistance for marketing Jordanian handicrafts.

The second project involves the rehabilitation of the centre for the hearing impaired and children with speech problems.

Mr. Assennato said that the Italian government has so far granted the centre \$700,000 in equipment, mainly hearing aid and sophisticated equipment for diagnosis. "In my opinion the centre is the best equipped in the Middle East," he said.

The centre, supervised by the Queen Alia Welfare Fund, was also provided with technical assistance, made available

by an Italian coordinator who was stationed in Jordan for three and a half years, in addition to a number of temporary experts.

Under the terms of the new Jordanian-Italian agreement, the centre will be granted \$900,000 to cover most of the country: Aqaba, Ma'an and Salt, Mr. Assennato informed the Jordan Times.

The third project provides technical assistance to the Amman University College for Applied Engineering.

According to Massimo Maciocia, an expert at the General Directorate for cooperation in development in the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the technical assistance will help supplement the two-year diploma level at the college to the four year bachelor level.

"Our major aim is to advance the technology in the labs of the university, to enable the students to move from the diploma level to the bachelor level," Mr. Maciocia explained. "We will also provide electrical machines and control systems as well as prepare a list of equipment to send to Amman," he added.

Under this aid package, the Italian government will also provide a nine-month scholarship for six trainees in Italy.

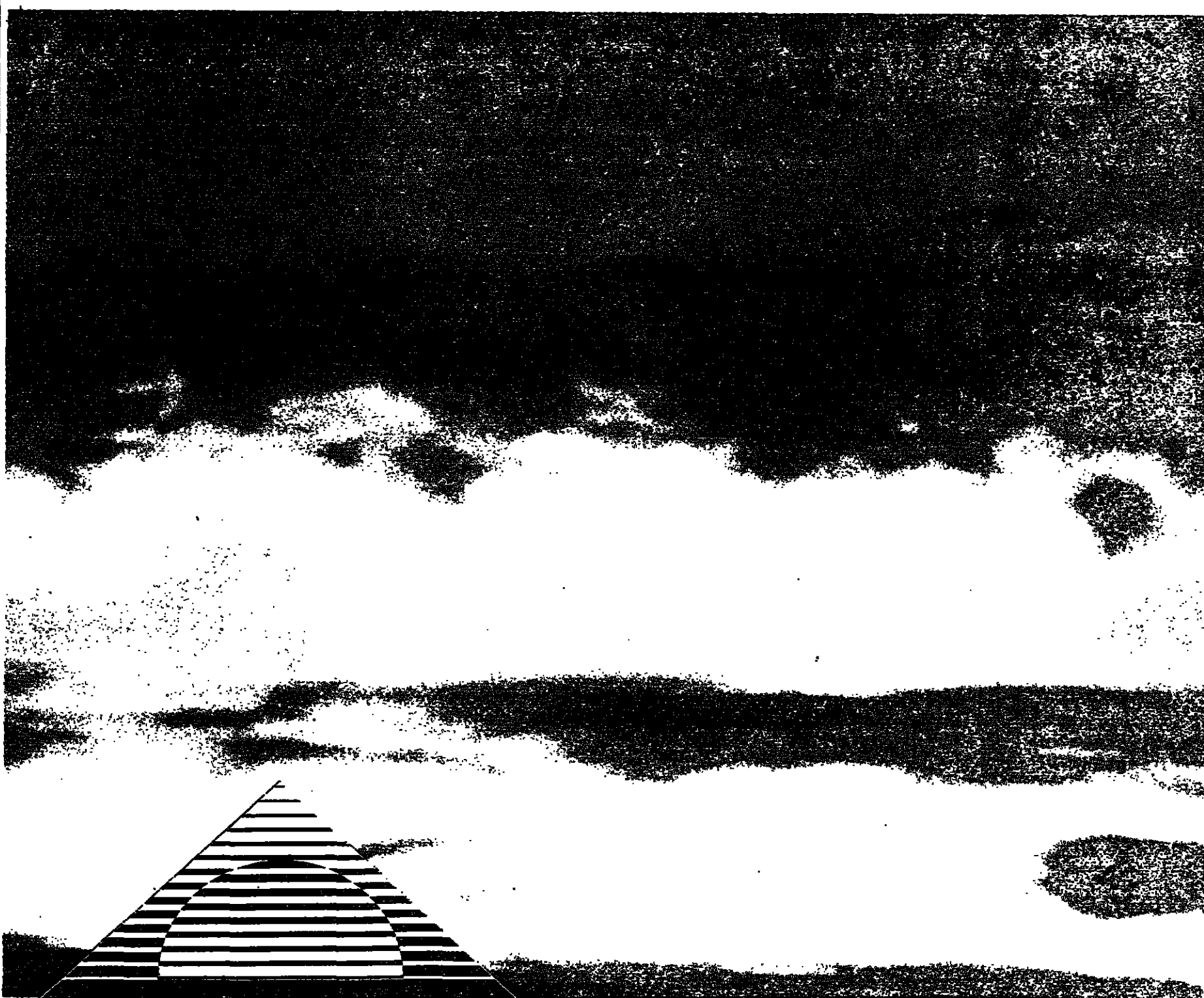
"We will also send two Italian experts, one fixed in Amman for three and a half year, and the other will be called upon when needed," Mr. Maciocia said.

NAF aids 989 needy families

KARAK (Petra) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) in the Karak Governorate has paid JD 41,780 as recurrent financial assistance to 989 needy families during the past two months, according to Director of the Social Development Department, Mr. Saleh Al Suqour.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Showqi Shoukial, Mohammad Al Jalous and Rifai Al Razzaz at Abdel Hameed Shouman Foundation 10 a.m. — 8 p.m.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Maher Al Shuaili at Alia Art Gallery, Insurance Building, 1st Circle.
- ★ Ceramic exhibition by Margaret Tadros and Najwa Aimah at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by painter Gagik Haroutounian, Armenian artist from Yerevan, at Al Watani Sporting Club, Al Ashrafieh (Open only on Friday from 4:00 p.m. till 10 p.m.).



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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Unlearnt lessons

THE DILEMMA of the Palestinian people has been compounded by its leadership. The pounding of Palestinian refugee camps in South Lebanon is the result of a futile policy by the PLO leadership that so far has only resulted in untold misery for the Palestinian people in Lebanon as elsewhere. It has become clear to everyone since 1982 that the Israelis, the Syrians and the Lebanese were determined to end the Palestinian military presence in Lebanon. Each of those three parties had done its share since then. Yet, the leadership has always chosen to defy the mighty powers of the region, with ill-equipped fighters, to the detriment and misery of the people of the camps.

The PLO insists that it resists Israel's occupation of South Lebanon. It carries, from time to time, futile, ill-planned and ill-executed operations into Israel which only result in the killing by the Israelis of young and zealous Palestinian fighters. And from time to time the Israeli air force raids Palestinian positions and kills tens of innocent people. From Tel Al Zaatar, through Sabra and Shatilla and south to Mieh Mieh, Palestinian refugees had been massacred and subjected to untold agony and misery.

We, of course, understand the political importance to the organisation and its leadership of the presence of its fighters in Lebanon. But we do not understand the failure of the PLO, everytime, at averting the people, the dwellers of the camps the hardships every encounter brings on them. Is the PLO ill-informed, or is it plain-sloppy? This last chapter with the Syrian-backed and Israeli-blessed Lebanese army has been brewing for sometime now. Did the PLO misread all the signals coming from all directions? Why is the Lebanese army, like the Syrians before it, like the Israelis before it, pounding Palestinian refugee camps and detaining Palestinian fighters? Why are the Palestinians losing all the time? Why are children being killed and maimed all the time? We agree with the PLO and with all Arab nationalists that almost everyone wants Palestinians stifled and Palestinian struggle ended. We agree that conspiracies are being hatched against Palestinians by the minute. That should be expected and understood. Your enemy shall always plot against you. But why should we play in the hands of our enemies? Didn't we learn from past mistakes? Since its move to Lebanon in the 1970s, the PLO, though gaining politically, has been losing every battle it enters. Not only that. The Palestinian people themselves, refugees in hostile lands, have been the major victim of its struggle. The failure of the PLO leadership to protect the people while it pursues Palestinian rights must be checked. The Palestinian people have been paying with their blood for 50 years now. They need a break, and deservedly so. That is why the meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis today is very important. Its immediate task should be ending the bloodshed in South Lebanon. And then a complete overhaul of the movement should be carried out. All the PLO organs should be revamped, starting with the Palestine National Council and ending with the Executive Committee. The whole region with the Palestine issue at its core is going into a new era, and unless the Palestinians themselves take the lead, they will be marginalised and left behind.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

IN his address to the opening of the Al Al Bayt conference in Amman His Majesty King Hussein urged Muslim scholars to raise the voice of reason, and say what is right without any hesitation and call attention to the need to address problems that are continually dismembering the Arab and Islamic nations, the Al Ra'i Arabic daily said Wednesday. The paper echoed the King's words that a number of Muslim clergymen had justified the aggression on Iraq, and so they helped to further dismember the nation and cause rifts among Arabs and Muslims. Muslim scholars should realise the deep malice and hatred harboured by the enemies of Arab and Islamic nations and the plots being hatched in the dark against Islam and the lust for humiliating the Arabs, the paper called. It said that this is the time for the Muslim scholars to act and to resist all temptations and pressures as they strive to help the nation fend off the danger looming in the offing and the continued threats directed against the Iraqi people who are being starved and the Palestinians who are being exterminated in their own homeland. The Muslim scholars, the paper added, should act now to foil the new conspiracies being hatched against Iraq which would serve the interest of Israel and world Zionism. The paper said that the nation has a good number of scholars who can stand up in the face of the aggressors and can help to abort Western conspiracies on Iraq and other parts of the Arab World.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily voices criticism of the new draft law on press and publication. The new law is not better than the older one, if not worse in many aspects, says Fakhr Kassar. He particularly points to a number of clauses, especially that which provides for the imposition of penalties on journalists and their institutions, and says that those who drew up the law as well as all the journalists realise too well that any writer, columnist or journalist is liable to make errors. He says that the present Jordanian papers faced such experience before and committed numerous errors, and are liable to fall in the same pit once again at any time. The writer calls for the cancellation of the clause in the new law which imposes penalties on the journalists and notes that the present stage requires from the government to breathe a new life in the local press rather than restricting its moves. The writer also draws attention to the fact that the new law does not discriminate between a political or literary publication, and between a daily or weekly paper, and says that such practice is harmful and not just. The writer believes that the new law was not enacted in a democratic perspective and he calls on the government to introduce a law that is more democratic and more conforming to the spirit of the modern age.

Barred from Israel for walking for peace

By Jim Douglass

WE were 40 walkers from a dozen countries, going from Jerusalem to Amman June 4-9. Our international walk for a just peace in the Middle East, organised by the Gulf Peace Team, tried to hike all 110 kilometres of the route. However, we were interrupted by two group arrests in the occupied West Bank.

The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) arrested 23 of us from 10 countries (including four from Israel) at the edge of Ramallah, and 14 from 9 countries on the wilderness road winding down from Taibeh to Jericho. In each case we had refused to turn back from what the IDF commander said were "closed military zones" — closed to you," as they told us.

The walk had been exhilarating, unifying, and I think more dangerous than we realised. The most transforming moments were also the most perilous, as when Palestinian children fanned out from the walk on its first afternoon, passing out our leaflet (we had our statement translated into Arabic and Hebrew) almost under the noses of IDF soldiers.

Another dangerous time occurred when we entered the West Bank village of Taibeh ("Ephraim" in the Gospel of John 11:54, where Jesus retreated with the disciples before

going up to Jerusalem), when hundreds of Palestinians joined us in a mass march. It culminated in a wild intifada celebration in the Taibeh town square before the Catholic Church of the Holy Redeemer. Had the IDF soldiers then come in force, I believe there would have been a massacre of the unauthorised gathering of the unrecognised nation of Palestine, joined in its pandemonium of singing and dancing that night by the nonviolent contingents of 12 nations.

At dawn the next day we experienced the more somber side of the intifada. We planted olive trees (an act of civil disobedience in the West Bank) at the hilltop crypt of a 15-year-old boy, martyred three years ago. His father, who brought us the seedlings, explained quietly that Israeli settlers had set fire to a patch of olive trees outside the village. The young men of Taibeh put out the fire, saving most of the trees. Soldiers with dum-dum bullets had then shot the body.

A priest among us sang a requiem for the boy, as dawn light streamed down around dark clouds into the cemetery. The waves of light fell also on the Israeli settlement, occupying an adjacent hill.

As I write these memories of our walk through the West Bank, it is now almost two weeks later, and one day after

an epilogue which took place on June 17. I shall narrate the epilogue in the present tense, as it continues to enter my eyes and heart.

From the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan we drive towards Israel across the Jordan River, now only a sludge-filled ditch. Sand-bagged machine gun nests stand on hills at the side of the road. Armed soldiers check our bus through the "no-man's land" between Jordan and the occupied Arab lands.

For Palestinians these planks of wood across the Jordan are known as the "bridge of torture." Those Palestinians in Jordan who are fortunate enough to be granted brief visits by Israel to their family

members in the West Bank are subjected by border guards to strip searches and long delays.

John Reuver, fellow Catholic peace activist and an emergency room doctor in Radford, Virginia, is two ahead of me in the line going through the Israeli immigration check point. The police officer who is questioning him has a thin face bearing glasses and a sad, kind smile. I recognise him.

He had been in the Jericho police station ten days ago, following our second arrest. The same officer had checked me out of Israel and the West Bank the next day as our walk for peace continued into Jordan. His last words, said with his sad smile, were: "I am

happy to say good-bye to you. Have a good trip."

Now the officer is motioning John not through the door into the West Bank but instead into a chair adjoining his booth. John has a troubled look on his face as he sits down.

When I stand before the officer, he greets me with a serious look and asks where "the woman from India" is, identifying one of our Gulf Peace Team organisers. I say I do not keep track of her.

He goes quickly to the point, saying he will make an argument to the minister of the interior for my being readmitted to Israel, but he does not know what the outcome will be. The kind smile comes and goes. There is a helpless look in his eyes. He motions me to the chair next to John's.

We wait for two hours while the immigration booth is closed. Several Palestinian women have been shown into small rooms where they are being strip searched.

Finally the corrugated shutter on the booth window is raised. The officer motions to me. He is sad but official.

"I am sorry, Mr. Douglass. In spite of my arguments, the minister of the interior has said no. You are not permitted to enter."

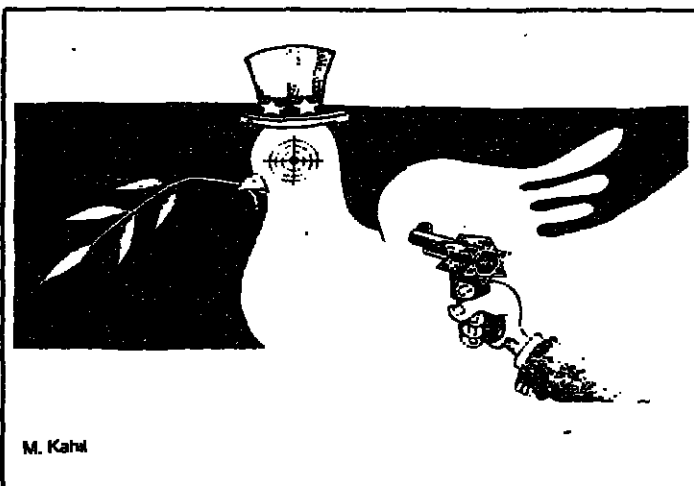
He adds, "I wish I were the minister so the decision could be different. But here I must not let my feelings interfere

with my job." John protests my exclusion from Israel, which prohibits his own case no good few minutes later, he, although he had not been arrested at all in the West Bank, becomes a second citizen barred from entering Israel because he walked peace.

I extend my hand through the booth window, and officer and I shake hands. I wish we could have met under different circumstances, and agree.

John and I return from the booth to Amman in a rickshaw bus filled with Palestinian women and their children. The bus is oppressively hot and unusually quiet, given the number of its passengers. Half-dozen in the corner of the back seat, my mind goes back by somber thoughts never again seeing Israel/Palestine. A Palestinian boy sits with his head on my shoulder, suspect his dreams are similar though with a deeper, more permanent pain than mine.

Jim Douglass is a writer who lives in Birmingham, Alabama. His fourth book on the theology of nonviolence, *The Nonviolent Coming of God*, will be published by Orb Books (Maryknoll, New York) in November 1991. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.



M. Kahil

Giants from East: Japan and China reassess their opportunities

By Lillian Craig-Harris

THE Gulf crisis seriously damaged China's political prestige and economic position in the Middle East, but appears to have provided Japan with the opportunity for expanded influence and profit from the region. China, which regards Japan as a major rival, is chagrined but has yet to engage in more than conciliatory gestures towards the Arabs. Tokyo, meanwhile, is consolidating its new Middle East advantage by enhancing economic ties with both the Arabs and Israel.

Over recent years, Japan's low key but generous aid programmes to the Middle East and growing economic connections have earned it Arab gratitude and respect. China, too, has enjoyed high prestige because of its sup-

port for the Palestinians and more modest but highly visible aid projects. But China has little to sell the Arabs except arms, and its opportunistic arms sales policy (to both Iran and Iraq during their eight year war) elicited Arab criticism.

More seriously, China's abstention from U.N. Security Council Resolution 678 authorising use of force against Iraq backedfire. Though China voted for the first ten U.N. resolutions on the Gulf crisis, it hoped by abstention on 678 to demonstrate continued friendship for the Iraqi people and disapproval of outside interference in the region. Choosing between Arab friends was very difficult. But Chinese failure to provide full support angered the Arabs who supported the U.S. China, moreover, for whom

Iraq had long been a major arms customer, is reliably reported to have maintained military personnel, possibly weapons service experts, in both Iraq and Saudi Arabia during the war. The Arabs are not pleased.

Non-payment of Iraqi debts and loss of commercial assets in Iraq cost China an immediate \$2bn. Lost revenue from Chinese workers in the Gulf and further business contracts send the total bill even higher. Now, despite their express desire to participate, the Chinese are expected to be excluded from Kuwaiti reconstruction contracts. Nor will once generous Kuwaiti joint-venture agreements with China be renewed in the near future.

Japan pushes forward

Unlike China, which is self-

sufficient in petroleum, the Japanese are dependent on the Middle East for 90 per cent of their oil. Tokyo's concern for Middle East stability was reflected in its \$11 bn contribution to multinational forces during the Gulf war. Since then Japan has provided some \$2bn in aid to Turkey, Jordan, Egypt and the Kurdish refugees.

But Japan's participation in the allied war effort sparked fierce debate in the Japanese parliament — where controversy continues over a proposal by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, to provide personnel for the U.N. peacekeeping mission. Dispatch of a Japanese flotilla of four minesweepers and two supply ships to the Gulf in late April represented a government victory

over internal opponents. China, not surprisingly, sees the venture as Japan's first overseas military mission since the end of World War II and is highly critical of Japanese "remilitarisation."

The Japanese seem determined, nonetheless, to push their advantage — and what many Japanese as well as Arabs see as a new international obligation. Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in June visited Egypt, Israel and Iran on a mission billed by the Japanese ministry of foreign affairs as an examination of Japan's post-war role. Under pressure from other countries, including the United States and Asian friends such as Singapore, to share in the cost of "global security," Japan seems to be on the way to accepting an international — and Middle Eastern — role more in keeping with its global economic status.

But a price will have to be paid. Japanese firms have been swift to seize the opportunity of Arab gratitude not only in access to Gulf contracts but by greater openness in dealing with Israel. Though Japan's bilateral trade with Israel amounted to \$1.4bn last year, most of this was through third parties. Japan has no direct air link with Israel and Japanese ships do not dock there. But such gestures to Arab sensitivity may be on the way out.

An April decision by Toyota to disregard the Arab boycott and begin selling cars in Israel represents a breakthrough which other Japanese companies will follow.

The first ever Japanese commercial attaché is scheduled to arrive in Tel Aviv in July — at Nakayama's visit is itself highly suggestive. So far, the Arabs have not criticised Japan for the

China affirms its friendship

China, meanwhile, has sought to reaffirm its Arab World friendships by renewing its verbal support for a just settlement of the Palestine issue and willingness to participate in an international peace conference. But many Arabs are disappointed with China. In the words of a senior Egyptian official, "What we needed strong support, the Chinese were indecisive." As consequence, he said, China will be cut out of Arab consultation on post-crisis security arrangements.

Embarrassing questions will now be asked. During the mid May visit to Cairo of a delegation representing the Chinese People's Committee for Friendship with Foreign Countries, the first since the 1960s, Egyptian journalists questioned the Chinese on both China's relationship with Iraq and its increasingly close tie to Israel. Both China and Japan have major Middle East economic interests which need to be defended by new political initiatives. Whereas Japan moves vigorously ahead, political stagnation in Beijing inhibits China's ability to play a creative role in the Middle East — Middle East International, London.

Lebanese army fighting to finish Israelis' unfinished work

By Peter Smerdon Reuter

BEIRUT — Lebanon's Syrian-backed government, by ordering troops to take over the PLO's main stronghold in the south, is fighting to finish off a task Israel set out to accomplish when it invaded Lebanon in 1982.

It wants to bring to heel PLO guerrillas who refuse to disband and, by extending the authority of the Lebanese state, end what once amounted to a Palestinian state-within-a-state.

The contrasts with the Israeli invasion, however, are clear: The Lebanese army is at war for Lebanon's soil and hopes the campaign will end in Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

The government demands that foreign powers, especially the United States, press Israel to leave as soon as guerrillas stop attacking its forces and raiding across its border.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation, weaker than it has been for years because of its stand on the Gulf crisis, is fighting for its last major guerrilla bases on Israel's borders.

The organisation lost many of its traditional Arab allies after it sided with Iraq in the war over Kuwait and, unlike in 1982, it can expect little foreign sympathy unless the battle drags on and casualties mount.

The estimated 6,000 PLO fighters east of the city of Sidon are the largest PLO force within striking distance of frontlines with Israeli troops and their Lebanese allies in the south.

The Israelis and South Lebanon Army (SLA) hold the Christian town of Jezzine, 12 kilometres to the east of Sidon, and a "security zone" further south which runs to the Israeli border.

But this year the Lebanese army and government have already managed to curb PLO operations against the Israelis and the SLA.

The army deployed in the Iqlim Al Tufah region to the south of

Sidon in February, leaving the guerrillas no clear access for raids or infiltration through the security zone.

Late on July 1, in a bid to avert a battle, the PLO pulled out from frontline positions facing Jezzine but refused to hand over bases overlooking two refugee camps on the edge of Sidon.

The 40,000-strong Lebanese army maintains that it alone should be responsible for the safety of the refugee camps.

There are estimated to be another 5,000 Palestinian fighters based in Lebanon but most are in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley or 11 other camps, which house some 250,000 refugees.

The outbreak of war for the PLO strongholds east of Sidon took some Lebanese and Palestinian officials by surprise. Until the weekend they had assumed a compromise would be reached.

The army cleared Beirut of Lebanese militias last December for the first time since civil war began in 1975 and moved into Lebanese militia strongholds in May without a shot being fired.

The Lebanese militiamen left the streets on the orders of their commanders, who were rewarded with seats in the cabinet. The

government is now paying salaries to 20,000 militiamen.

But in the case of the PLO the army's plan to deploy turned into a battle of wills. Neither could be seen to weaken for fear the other would sense an advantage and make more demands.

The army realised it could not control the region unless it had full access. The PLO believed that if it backed down it would be at the mercy of a government which has abandoned years of support for guerrilla war to force Israel out of Lebanon.

The PLO military presence in Lebanon is completely at odds with the government's crusade to win full Lebanese sovereignty and a withdrawal of all foreign forces.

The government repeatedly refused PLO demands for formal talks, saying they could only start after the army had deployed.

Fighters in Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp said on July 2 they were confident they could repel the army in the south, where the PLO has had bases since Mr. Yasser Arafat became chairman in 1969.

But some Lebanese troops who assaulted PLO bases said before the battle they saw their mission

as smashing the Palestinian guerrillas they blame for starting the civil war in 1975.

Lebanese date the start of the civil war from an incident in April 1975 when Christian gunmen, angered by the growing strength of the Palestinian armed movement, ambushed a busload of Palestinians in Beirut.

Defence Minister Michel Al Murr told his troops on July 2: "As you restore the nation to the south and the south to the nation, you are wiping out the features of an aggressive conspiracy which has gone on for 16 years."

Most ministers either kept silent when the fighting began or said it meant Israel would have no excuse to stay in Lebanon. Only Druze leader Walid Jumblatt expressed sympathy for the PLO.

Beirut newspapers meanwhile speculated on where the PLO fighters east of Sidon would be shipped after they are beaten.

Arafat left Lebanon twice after military defeats. In 1982 the Israelis forced him to leave Beirut and in 1983, after months of fighting with Syrians, forces, he sailed out of the northern port of Tripoli.



M. Kahil

LETTERS

Look into yourselves!

To the Editor:

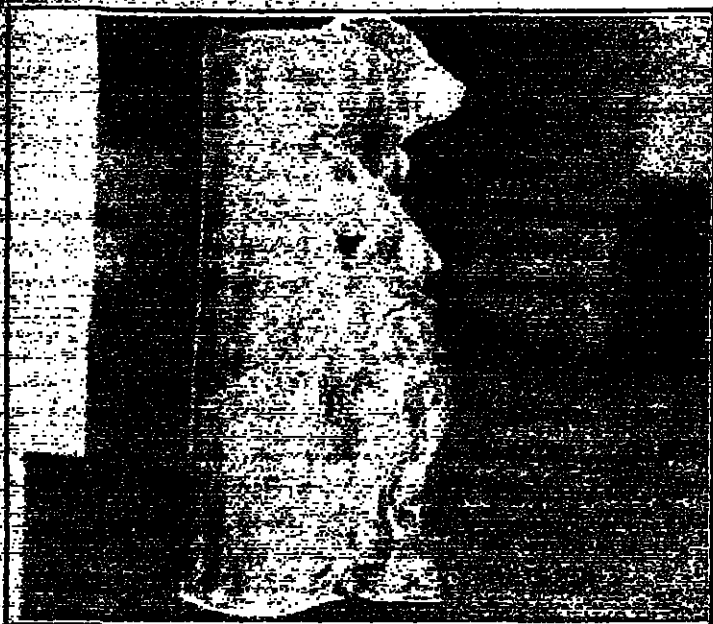
THE dilemma which Arab citizens are facing in "liberated" Kuwait should make the whole Arab World sick. We here in Jordan feel disgusted that the same people, who escaped from Kuwait during the Iraqi invasion — or more correctly at the moment they heard of it — are the ones who carry out trials against "collaborators." Those are the real "collaborators" not the people who stayed in Kuwait.

To be fair to our brothers (if they are still so) in Kuwait, we have to make them understand who the real traitors and collaborators are. The real traitors, dear gentlemen, are the ones who do not defend their countries. If this is applied to Kuwaitis, we can easily find out that the brave militiamen, who are real men now in Kuwait, have found out that Kuwait is to be defended now, but not — ironically speaking — in the face of the Iraqi "enemy". It is both tragic and ironic to learn that the leaders of the country, the would-be brave soldiers armed to their teeth with the most sophisticated weapons were the first to flee the country in the face of the enemy. Well, those are now the "real men" who torture the "collaborators" under the protection of their "real friends" — the West.

Reading the facts of the crisis, we can confidently say that, in the proverb goes, if your house is made of glass you should not throw stones. Our "brothers" in Kuwait do not understand this. They had they understood it, they would have tortured and tried can then — and only then — do whatever they like to the "collaborators" with the Iraqis. I do pity those people in Kuwait by torturing innocent people — Jordanians, Palestinians, Sudanese, and, to our surprise, Egyptians. Dear gentlemen in Kuwait, do the right thing and ask yourselves if you have the right to do the opposite. If you think about it, you'll find out the right path. Defend your country until death when someone tries to invade it. Do this and it will entitle you to try collaborators, and then nobody will blame you.

Muhammad Saleem Faray,
P.O. Box 28086
Amman

2 artists hold ceramics exhibition at Spanish Centre Exhibits display mixture of classic, modern styles



A creation by Margaret Tadros called "triangle cylinder with glass," is one of the items displayed at the exhibition.

By Maha Addasi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Many artists work with clay, but only few work with it with the concept that it is the remains of someone once alive. This is how artist Margaret Tadros, who is currently displaying ceramic art at the Spanish Cultural Centre along with Najwa Annab, conceives the material she works with.

Of the 23 shapes and figures displayed, many are made of a single piece of clay that has been rolled with a rolling pin to a certain thickness, and then shaped, dried and baked after which the finishing touches were added.

According to Tadros, it is very common that the shaped form cracks beyond repair, and it is not unusual to make five attempts at making a

plate and only come out with one which is flawless "It is at times like this when the clay cracks or breaks that I feel that this particular clay is the remains of an evil man," Tadros said, adding that she works with clay fully aware that it is something delicate.

Tadros varies her techniques in every piece. In several forms, (cylinders, plates, and bowls) she uses glass. By placing pieces of glass on the clay form while it is still wet and then baking it in a high temperature kiln at a pre-tested temperature she gets the desired effect. "Using a kiln is another sensitive aspect of my work," Tadros said. "If the glass I use expands while the type of clay happens to shrink too much with heat, then the piece breaks up and it's as much as lost."

Another eye-catching characteristic of Tadros' work is the fact that she uses canvases as part of her shapes. "A great deal can be done with canvas. I usually dip a piece in very soft clay and then in some metal oxides depending on the colour I want." (Oxides of certain metals, called the transition metals, give off a characteristic colour when exposed to heat. Since Tadros emphasises greens in her works she uses copper oxides to get the desired colours then I drape these canvases onto pre-shaped clay," she said pointing to an example of a bowl, part of which was once a canvas that it is now well-blended within the bowl as though it was always a part of it.

Tadros who received a Master's degree in Industrial Design from the Academy of Arts in Bucharest, Romania, is now completely dedicated to ceramic art works. She has participated in over 8 exhibitions and held two solo exhibitions.

In deep contrast with the bright greens and reds, Najwa Annab's clay art pieces are of natural colours. "I go through phases with my art whether it is the shapes or the colours," Annab explained. "In this exhibition I have concentrated on rounded shapes that have small bases. I used red earthenware clay and kept the colour as close to its natural form as possible even after baking."

To the observant eye Annab's art pieces, which she forms free-handedly, look almost like they could move. The small bases achieve this

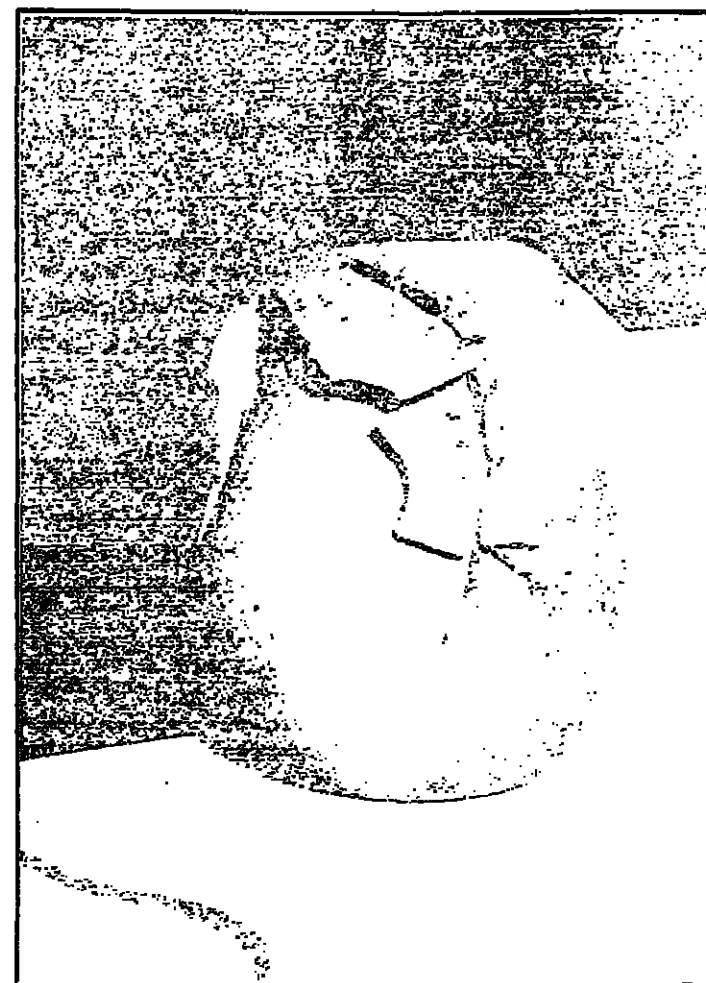
apparent mobility, as opposed to large bases which would have given a rooted appearance.

In many examples, Annab uses canvas impressions on clay. "I try to do something different with every bowl I make. I think the idea of having clay with canvas-like imprints draped around forms gives those forms a unique appearance," she said, mentioning that she got the idea for doing that after placing a wet cloth over a clay vase, merely to prevent it from drying up too fast.

One of the features Annab is proud of in her works is the intricate use of bundles thin copper wires. "I lace copper wire into some of my pieces. This sometimes takes as long as half a day of continuous work, but the touch it achieves is something I like," she said.

The work looks very wholesome to the extent that any artificial colour would take away from it, but Annab admits that she sometimes adds some "natural" colouring by blackening certain protrusions on vases. "I use candles and kindled newspapers to darken certain pieces," Annab said. "I also tarnish the clay with a silver spoon so that the natural glow of the clay comes out. Often, I use olive oil for polish."

Annab received a B.A. in three dimensional design (ceramic/weaving) at West Surrey College of Art and Design in the United Kingdom. She now teaches art and ceramics at the Baccalaureate School. This is Annab's seventh participation in an art exhibition. This exhibition will continue until July 6.



A sewn pot of red clay, one of the works by Najwa Annab, currently on display at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

Gems of the world

By Ziad Dajani

Gem stones have always fascinated mankind. In earlier centuries they were reserved for the ruling classes only.

Gem stones have a real and proven influence over people and their lives. To go further over their health and destination.

How? Wearing gems and authentic jewellery made of natural gems gives the wearer a feeling of security, self confidence and wealth. Rulers in the past sealed their documents with jewel encrusted seals which was the expression of their power and wealth.

Gems nowadays are bought for pleasure, in appreciation of its beauty. Also some superstitious people believe gems bring luck restoring health and brings you close to your goal and so forth, for centuries. It has been believed that gems and jewels offer protection against ghosts and have angels work in the wearer's favour, repulse evil and preserve health. They also thought gems made nobility gracious and brought sailors home.

Up to the 19th century gemstones were used as medicines against illnesses. Thus used in three ways:

A. The mere presence of the stone was sufficient to effect a cure.

B. The gem was placed on the human body.

C. The stone was crushed, powdered and swallowed as medicine.

If the stone used did not accomplish the healing, it was believed to be not a genuine gem. Even today calcium tablets made out of powdered pearls are used as medicine in Japan. This brings us to the stones of the month. Each stone is linked to astrology and the Zodiac. Gems are also used in religious circles. The Pope and bishops always wear gems. From an investment point of view it is a fact that it is wealth kept, and has survived pressures of inflation better than most investments over the last decades.

As of last year, semi-precious stones have become precious stones. Some stones now are becoming very rare and difficult to find. Accordingly they are becoming very expensive. For example the "Alexandrite" (Number after Czar Alexander II). It is green in daylight, and light red in artificial light. Many stones are rare now and their prices are, in some cases, unbelievable.

Stones now are also being used in ornamental items, ashtrays, clocks, tables etc.

Gems are weight in carats.

Colour is the most important aspect of gems. Real colours of gems appear better in daylight and not in artificial light. Each gem has a unique colour of its own. Some stones have many colours such as the Opal.

Transparency is also an important factor in determining a gem. The more transparent, the better, but a stone without any inclusions or air bubbles should raise doubts and must be professionally examined.

Gems could be found in many parts of the world. Mainly the original place and the secondary place.

The original place is where the gems are found stuck to

or within the mother rock. The secondary place is the place where the gem ends up after the forces of nature carry it by winds, storms and rivers. Mixing gem is easier in secondary places because gems are found looser and not as adherent as gems found in the mother rock.

Most deposits of gems are found in the following countries: South Africa, South East Asia, Brazil, the Urals, Australia, and the mountain zones of the U.S.

Imitation of gem stones

Imitation of gem stones started in Egypt in 1758. An Austrian named Joseph Strasser developed a type of glass which could be cut to look similar to a diamond. These were called "Strass" and were prohibited from use by the Empress Maria Theresa. Czechoslovakia was also an important centre for glass jewellery until 1945. Another way of imitation is using a layer of a real gem and the rest glass.

Synthetic gems (false gem) are man-made. They look like real stones, mostly in rubies, sapphires, emeralds and diamonds.

To tell the difference you have to examine the hardness of the gem as well as its temperature. Machines for this purpose are sold to determine their authenticity.

The increased demand for pearls has led to their cultivation in large quantities. Such cultured pearls are not imitation, but a natural product which has been produced with man's help. Today cultured pearls amount to 90 per cent of the total pearl trade.

The pearls to be cultivated stay in water for 3 to 4 years and there are many complicated processes to be followed.

Gems of your birth

Let January's maiden be all garnet gemmed with constancy.
In fitful February, it's a verity
That the amethyst demotes sincerity.
But oh what shall a March maid do?
Wear an aquamarine to be brave and true.
The April girl has a brave defence.
The diamond guards her innocence.
Sweet child of May, you'll taste the caress
Of emerald's promised happiness.
Pearls should bring joy to the girls of June.
For youthful beauty is their special boon.
The ruby stole a spark from heaven above.
To bring the July maiden untold love.
The August maiden so sweetly coy,
Wears a peridot, the gem of joy.
Out of the depths shall sapphires come,
For September's child to have wisdom.
October's child in darkness of maymope,
The iridescent opal bids it hope.
Born in November, happy is she
Whom the topaz teaches fidelity.
December's child shall live to
bless the turquoise that ensures success.

Rome hails Valentino as local hero

By John Follain

ROME — The "eternal city" has just paid fashion guru Valentino a tribute fit for a Roman emperor to celebrate the first 30 years of his career.

A bejewelled jet-set led by Elizabeth Taylor flew in to toast Valentino Garavani, the Italian who since the 1960s has dressed Taylor herself and the likes of Jackie Onassis, Audrey Hepburn and Nancy Reagan.

Rome's mayor threw a party on Capitol Hill, the site where victorious generals were acclaimed in the days of the Roman Empire.

The city had apparently forgiven the dapper Valentino for betraying it three years ago when he became the first Italian designer to give a

show only in Paris, where he first studied fashion.

Valentino, 59, a small figure whose arched eyebrows and wide smile give him an uncanny cat-like expression, was born in northern Italy but has lived and worked in Rome ever since he opened an atelier in the Chic Via Dei Condotti in the 1950s.

"This is my home now," he said during a break from hugging and kissing dozens of devoted buyers and models, including Carol Alt and Brigitte Bardot look-alike Claudia Schiffer.

"I feel so emotional. I haven't ever felt as moved as now, not even during my most important showings," he added.

For Valentino it was the crowning of a career he started against the wishes of

his own wealthy family, who saw fashion as a frivolous world far removed from their Lombard roots.

Thirty years after opening his first boutique, the stylist celebrated with the Capitol Hill party, a midsummer ball the following night and two exhibitions of his work.

Today his coveted "V" label can also be found in cars, tiles, perfumes, jewellery and household linen.

The ghosts of many glamorous names joined the festivities through dresses shown at the main exhibition, which is due to move on to Paris, London and New York.

The cream tunic and pleated skirt worn by Jackie Kennedy when she married into the Onassis dynasty, and black lace dresses bought by

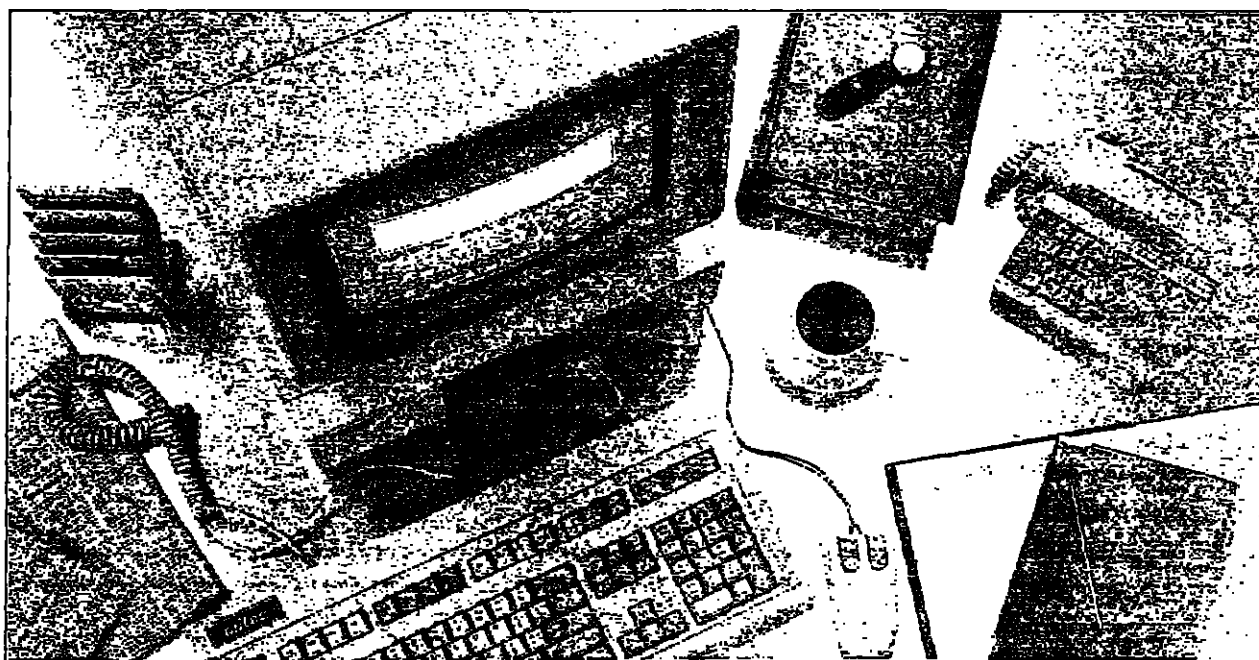
Audrey Hepburn in the 1960s and 70s are star showpieces among 318 Valentino creations.

Liz Taylor cried out in delight when she toured the exhibition, recognising a copy of her first Valentino dress which she wore to the premiere of Cleopatra in 1963.

"It was so wonderful to see it. It was all there. I recognised all the details. The other one bit the dust long ago," she said after a quick change into a Valentino ballgown, a white chiffon creation with a daring décollete, for the candlelit dinner in the Villa Medici above the Spanish Steps.

Rival designers came to pay homage too — Givenchy, Ungaro and Gianfranco Ferré among them.

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The hazards of dining out

By Maha Addasi

RESTAURANTS. Are they safe? This is a question asked by many who have suffered severe bouts of food poisoning caused by food from a restaurant, making them vow that they will never again eat out. Even if a typical home-cooked meal is tuna fish topped with a rich chocolate syrup, for some people it is "Home sweet home."

After talking with a group of people regarding their refusal to eat at restaurants, they expressed some of their concerns. What follows explains why these restaurant frequenters became "former" restaurant goers.

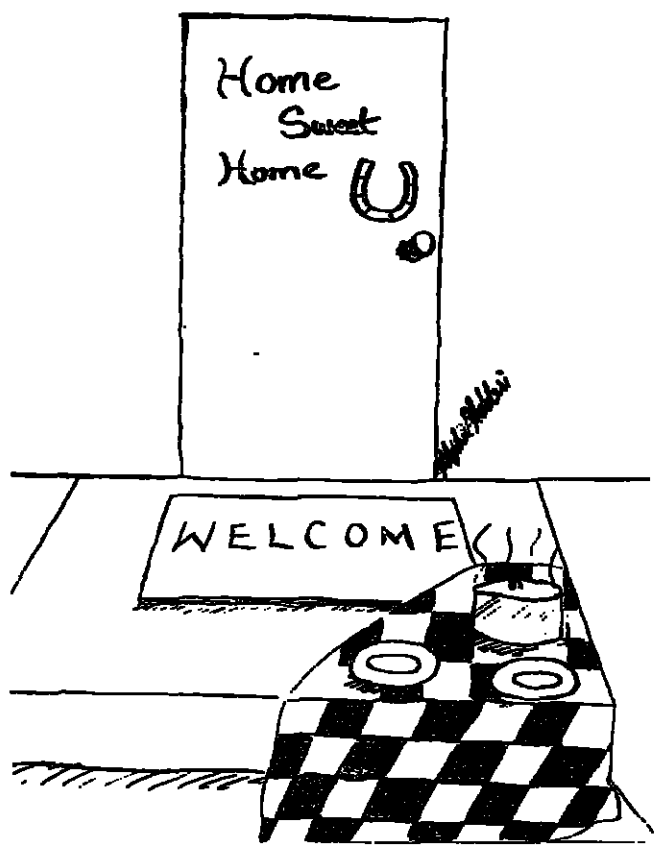
"There was one time at a restaurant when I had finished my meal and I was enjoying a perfect cup of coffee," one woman said. "I found myself shewing something that I knew must be a cardamom seed, and I was thinking how generous they were at the restaurant for putting in whole seeds in the coffee. Then when I wanted to remove the cardamom shell I found out that, yes, it was a shell, but it was a roach shell. Not exactly what I had expected. It took me a long while to recover," she said.

Another person backing up the former statement said that after seeing how the cook made the salad at a restaurant she went to while vacationing abroad, she kissed restaurants good-bye and ate canned food for the rest of the trip. "It was after that one time when I had a seat near the kitchen door, which was 'conveniently' open. The cooks were in full view and one of them was making the salad but looked uncomfortably hot. I was close enough to capture that moment when the cook sweated into the salad bowl and that was it. I was so devastated I got up and left," she said.

Others said that because of repeated incidents of upset stomachs a day following eating out, they started to blame themselves, not because they ate out and disregarded rumours about the lack of hygiene, they explained, but because they had lost their tempers at the waiter and felt that somehow he managed to take revenge by doing something to their meals. "It happened several times," said one man talking on behalf of his family. "We would sit in a restaurant forever before our meal is prepared and I start to lose my temper, so I would give a piece of my mind to the waiter, like it's his fault. Then I start to feel paranoid that the waiter would get back at me by spitting in my soup before bringing it to my table. I know this is a terrible thought, but I have no guarantees that this does not happen," he said mentioning that he and his family still go to restaurants but that he never orders soup, "just in case," he said.

But there are also those who feel that restaurants are a blessing. "Whenever I'm under pressure and I have guests over we go out to a restaurant to eat. That way I don't have to worry about what to cook and whether I will finish everything on time," one social butterfly said.

Dining out as perceived by some



Another man had a very positive impression of restaurants. "Heck, they saved my life," he said. "When I got engaged my in-laws told me that my fiancée could not cook. They kept repeating this whenever an occasion presented itself, but I was too high on love to really care. And then, reality hit. You know how they say that love is blind: well marriage is an excellent eye opener. I soon found out that when 'they' told me my wife couldn't cook, they meant it in the true sense of the word. And I also found out that if I waited for my mother-in-law to teach her daughter how to cook I was going to be extremely dead by the time she's done. So I went to restaurants. Long live restaurants. For some odd reason, though, I kept bumping into my father-in-law there," he said.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, July 4

1824 — Turkey captures island of Isparta in war with Greeks.

1887 — Britain and Russia reach agreement on Afghanistan.

1910 — Russian and Japan sign agreement on Manchuria and Korea.

1946 — Republic of the Philippines is founded after 47 years of U.S. rule.

1957 — V. Molotov, D.J. Shepilov and G.M. Malenkov are expelled from presidium of Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party.

1972 — North and South Korea renounce use of force and agree on principles to unify Korea peacefully without outside interference.

1974 — Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie agrees to military supervision of his government and speedup of democratic reforms.

1986 — Sikh militants kill 12 people in India's troubled Punjab state in bloodiest terrorism spurt in recent weeks.

1987 — Klaus Barbie is convicted in Lyon, France, of crimes against humanity and sentenced to life imprisonment for atrocities he carried out during World War II as local Gestapo chief.

1988 — U.S. naval investigative team is dispatched to the Gulf following U.S. destruction of Iranian passenger jetliner with 290 aboard.

1990 — Kremlin lifts 10-week rail ban on movement of foodstuffs into Lithuania. The ban was enacted in effort to quell republic's independence movement.

Friday, July 5

1796 — British force captures island of Elba.

1811 — Venezuela becomes first South American country to declare its independence from Spain.

1812 — Britain makes peace with Russia and Sweden.

1830 — French launch invasion of Algeria and take Algiers.

1940 — Vichy government in France breaks off relations with Britain in World War II.

with Britain in World War II.

1943 — German offensive on Soviet front begins with Battle of Kursk in World War II.

1959 — President Sukarno dissolves Indonesia's Constituent Assembly.

1960 — Congolese national army mutinies.

1969 — Tom Mboya, Kenya's economic planning commissioner and likely successor to President Jomo Kenyatta, is assassinated in Nairobi.

1973 — Government of small central African nation of Rwanda is overthrown in military coup.

1975 — Cape Verde Islands become independent after 500 years of Portuguese rule.

1977 — Pakistan army seizes power in bloodless coup that unseats Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

1988 — Iran's president says the Islamic Republic has the "right to avenge" the airliner shot down by U.S. warship.

1989 — Sudan's ruling junta decrees one-month unilateral ceasefire in war with rebels in southern Sudan.

1990 — Leaders of NATO countries approve proposal from President Bush to open alliance to visit from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Saturday, July 6

1770 — Russian fleet, with British sailors as officers, defeats Turkish Navy at Chesme, Turkey.

1782 — British and French fleets battle off Madras, India.

1809 — Pope Pius VII, having excommunicated Napoleon Bonaparte, is taken prisoner by French.

1827 — Treaty of London, under which Russia, Britain and France recognise autonomy of Greece and agree to force Greece on Sultan of Turkey.

1908 — Young Turks under Niaz Bey stage revolt at Resina in Macedonia, and government troops which are sent to quell the riot desert.

1919 — British dirigible

lands at New York's Roosevelt Field, marking first crossing of Atlantic Ocean by an airship.

1923 — Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is formed.

1945 — Nicaragua becomes first nation to accept formally United Nations Charter.

1964 — Nyasaland Protectorate, renamed Malawi, becomes independent within British Commonwealth.

1972 — South Vietnamese capture Communist-occupied Quang Tri City.

1986 — Two Australians are hanged in Malaysia for drug trafficking, said to be first Westerners executed under Malaysia's strict drug laws.

1988 — Armenian activists claim that paratroopers opened fire on group of unarmed protesters at Yerevan's airport, killing up to five people.

1989 — Iranian leader Ali Khamenei urges Muslims to defy Saudi Arabian ban on political activity in holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

1990 — NATO allies pledge to reduce both nuclear and conventional forces in Europe in show of friendship to Soviet Union.

Sunday, July 7

1815 — Allied forces enter Paris, following Napoleon Bonaparte's abdication.

1898 — United States annexes island of Hawaii.

1913 — Britain's House of Commons passes Irish Home Rule bill.

1935 — South Africa's senate rejects colour-bar bill.

1937 — Japanese troops on manoeuvres near Peking clash with Chinese, marking start of Sino-Japanese War.

1966 — Belgium sends troops to the Congo.

1987 — At least 46 Hindus are killed in two attacks on buses within 24 hours in Punjab and Haryana in India by suspected Sikh terrorists.

1989 — Thousands of people defy martial law in Burma and rally in memory of citizens killed during military crackdown.

1990 — Diplomats say thousands of Albanians crowding into foreign embassies will be allowed to leave their Communist homeland.

Monday, July 8

1833 — Turkey and Russia sign Treaty of Hunkar Iskelesi, a defensive alliance under which the sultan agrees to close Dardanelles Straits to all but Russian warships.

1858 — British proclaim peace in India.

1895 — Opening of Delagoa Bay railway gives Transvaal outlet to sea.

1920 — Britain annexes East African protectorate as Kenya colony.

1940 — Norway government moves to London after 62 days of fighting Nazi invaders in World War II.

1950 — U.S. General Douglas MacArthur is named commander-in-chief of United Nations forces in Korea.

1960 — The Congo's premier Patrice Lumumba appeals to United Nations after Belgians send troops to Congo.

1967 — Air and ground fighting breaks out between Israel and Egypt along Suez Canal.

1969 — Bishops and priests of Church of England defeat proposal for reunification with Methodist Church.

1976 — Indonesian government says 9,000 people died in earthquake in New Guinea.

1986 — Kurt Waldheim is inaugurated as Austria's president, condemns anti-Semitism and urges Austrians to bridge racial and religious differences with tolerance.

1987 — Defiant political prisoners march out of South Korea prisons and demand release of all other government opponents.

1990 — Facing continued criticism of his ethnic and economic policies, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev tells farmers and workers to support him or find a new leader.

By The Associated Press

The Golden Fledgling

By E. Yaghi

(Part One)

It was hot, dry and gloomy. Just another typical day of the intifada. Dust hung in the air with an oppressive reality and it settled on the houses, trees and citizens of the small Palestinian village. Red puffs of dirt swirled in clouds and choked the angry group of children who shouted insults, chanted for freedom and threw stones at the occupying forces. The Gulf war was over, victories were claimed and peace proposals put forth, yet life was as brutal as ever. Nothing had changed at all except perhaps for the worst.

Each day Haitham would join his friends and throw stones at the intruding soldiers of his vanquished village and country. In return, the Israelis would shoot rubber bullets at them and throw tear gas. The crowd would be dispersed by force. Often live bullets would be used and at least one death would occur.

This was the occupation that chased children and told the world that they had a historical right to Haitham's land, his grandfather's land and the land of his ancestors which had been theirs from the beginning of time. Haitham couldn't understand how any foreign subjugation could take Palestinian land forcefully away from them and yet convince the world that they had a right to do so.

"Down with occupation! Long live our country! May there be democracy and liberty!" hollered the frustrated, yet courageous children.

It didn't take long to agitate the Israeli soldiers. They fired their rubber bullets as well as live ammunition at the fleeing screaming children. Quickly, without mercy, the soldiers on foot and in army jeeps pursued their victims as though they were after a dangerous enemy.

Haitham swiftly fled like an agile fawn. He was running for his life. One of his friends who was scrambling away a little ahead of him shouted, "Run Haitham, run fast! If they catch you, they will beat you, maybe kill you. They will break your hands for throwing stones. Do not let them know who you are, for if they do, they will come to your house at night and drag you out, beat you and put you in prison!"

Haitham darted into a side alley and feeling his life and liberty at stake, instinctively passed through an open door leading to a small clay house. Panting with fear, he shouted to an elderly woman who had risen from her chair at the boy's commotion. "Oh, please lady, can you help me? The police are after me!"

"Quiet, young man," said the elderly woman, putting her finger on her lips. "or they will hear you. If they catch you here, you and I will both be in trouble! You can stay here for a while until it is safe. I'll hide you in the cellar."

until the way is clear. Where are your parents boy, a what is your name?"

The old woman's hands shook as she nervously fidgeted. Her white brows were drawn in tight consternation and her snow-white hair was pulled sternly back, complementing her countenance but she was deeply touched by the youth and innocence of the terrified boy.

"My name is Haitham. Miss. My mother is at home, taking care of my little brothers and my father is in prison for resistance."

"Because I'm the oldest son, I want to continue to struggle until the whole world hears our cries of despair, sees our oppression and knows our situation as second class citizens in our own country," stated the brave but perturbed boy.

His face was yellow with the panic of imminent danger and his stomach twisted in anxiety. The boy's tousled hair shone like black silk. His doe-shaped eyes were studded with thick, dark lashes and his proud nose and mouth already bore the sign of family importance. His light golden complexion gave him a striking appearance. Although Haitham was 13 years old, his build was slight and he looked younger than his age. The old woman, known as Sarah, couldn't refuse the boy's refuge. She saw her child in him. She was a mother and had this sudden urge to protect the child under her wings and protect him.

"My poor boy," sighed Sarah, "but as soon as the danger is past, you must leave, for if they find you here, they will demolish my house and I will have nowhere else to go. I am an old woman. My sons are not here to protect me because they live outside the country. May God protect you my child and save you from these vicious wolves who show no mercy for old women or young children! You are too young to fight them. Do you know what they will do if they catch you?"

The boy trembled as he spoke. "Yes, Miss. I do! Some of my friends have been severely beaten with clubs and suffered broken bones and heads, but how else can we let the world know and feel our situation? I know that the prisoners taken have no trials and are tortured. Their screams pierce the silent night but the world remains deaf to our afflicted people. God knows what brutality my poor father endures right now while we are speaking."

He was interrupted by sirens and approaching, tramping feet. Sarah grabbed the boy and half threw, half pushed him into a small dark cellar. "Stay here until I come for you! she ordered. She quickly shut and locked the door on the mortified boy. His heart beat as if it were going to explode. He faintly heard the front door thrown open and the loud voices of the police. His fate was sealed.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Saturday, July 6

8:30 The Cosby Show

Clare fights her own battles in court, while her husband wages his at home.

9:00 Encounter

Rami Khouri talks with Kathy Kelly and Jim Douglas. Both are members of the Gulf peace team. Discussion centres around the role of their organisation, and the members' views and personal experiences relating to the Gulf crisis.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film

Murder Times Seven

Starring: Richard Crenna and Susan Blakely

The senseless slaying of five innocent people becomes Janek's latest challenging case when one of the victims turns out to be Janek's former partner.

Sunday, July 7

8:30 Yes Minister

The Right To Know

Sir Humphrey is always on the lookout for trivial matters to keep the minister busy but he always irritates the minister when he doesn't reveal all the facts to him.

9:10 Documentary

Les Hommes De L'ombre

Espionage, secret agents, secret intelligence organisations from different countries are all the subject of this documentary. The professor traces the history and the means of secret espionage organisations.

10:00 News in English

10:20 B.L. Stryker

Stryker's former wife and her friend go out shopping to buy a Christmas gift for Stryker. Little do they know about the adventure that awaits them in the course of doing so.

Monday, July 8

8:30 Empty Nest

Dr. Weston is having an affair with a younger woman, but everyone around them objects to this uneven relationship.

tionship.

9:10 Murder She Wrote

When Thieves Fall Out

Jessica investigates a murder that took place 20 years ago and discovers, to everybody's horror, that the murderer is the old friendly coach.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Separate But Equal

The civil rights issue of the blacks back in 1950 in the U.S. Does it imply that some people are more equal than others.

Tuesday, July 9

8:30 Perfect Strangers

New Kid On The Block

Just when Larry decides he needs some quiet to concentrate on his homework — his cousin Palki decides to babysit for a friend's child.

9:10 Our House

Growing Up. Growing Old

In this episode, the saying "A neighbour in need is a neighbour indeed" is applied

to the fullest.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Columbo

Try And Catch Me

An old experienced lady in detective story writing carries out a well planned murder. But Columbo manages to unveil the truth about her.

Wednesday, July 10

8:30 Don't Walk Up

The possibility of being bestowed the honorary title of sir on the daddy excites the whole family.

9:10 Silk Route Of The Sea

From Rome To The Red Sea

This interesting documentary traces the ancient ceramics route from China to the Middle East.

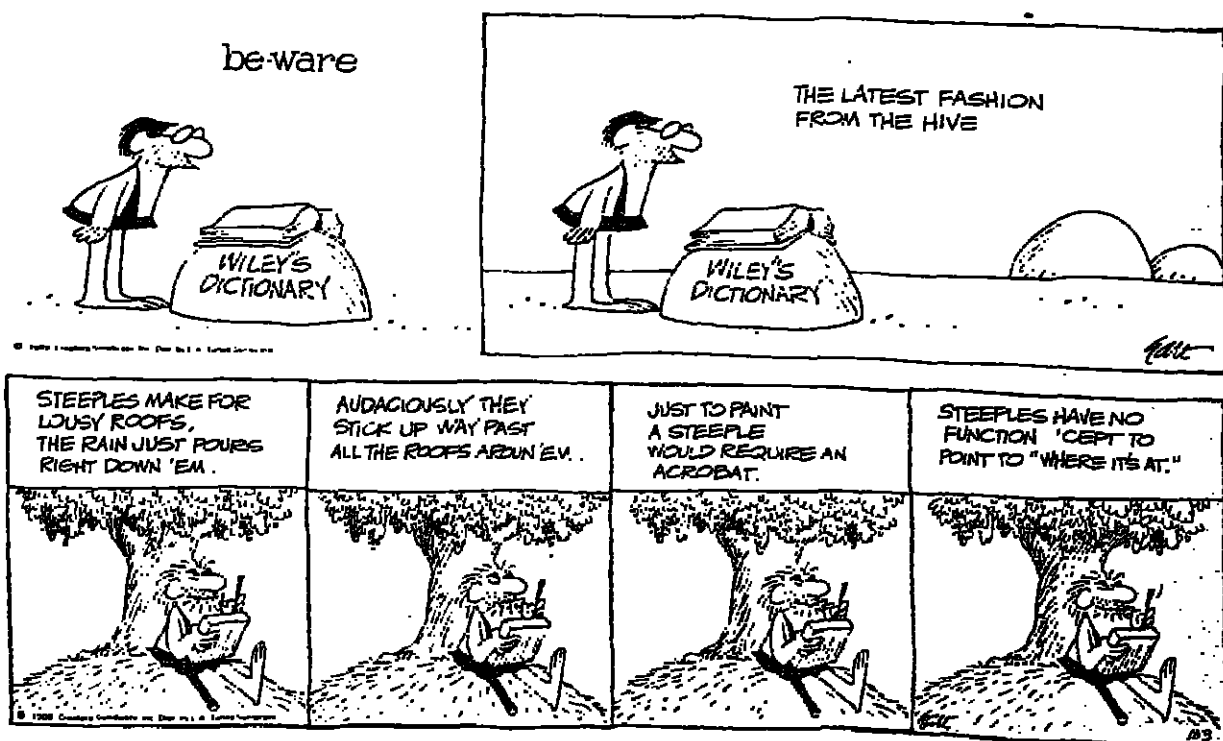
10:00 News in English

10:20 French Mini Series

La Cavaliers Anx Yeuy Vert

After a seven year absence, Elie returns to the village only to be told that they have all gone to Brazil.

B.C.



Artists find new role in quake-torn city

By Jon Miller

BAGUIO CITY. The Philippines — "Artist." The very word conjures up the image of an indolent layabout, more likely to take than to give. But members of an artists' colony in the Philippines are standing tall after helping bring a community back from the brink of disaster.

In July 1990 Roberto Villanueva was on a bus heading out from Manila when the earth heaved and shattered under his hometown of Baguio. With landslides blocking all the roads to the mountain city, Villanueva decided he would rather walk the last 22 kilometres than return to the steamy capital and wait for word about his family. "Sitting in Manila with no information would have been torture," he explains.

An easy five-hour trip had suddenly become an 18-hour nightmare. Soaked by rain, Villanueva arrived at his doorstep at three in the morning. His family was fine, but the city — the country's summer capital and, more recently, a haven for artists — was in ruins.

Schools had collapsed, killing students and teachers. The Hyatt Baguio Terrace, the premier hotel in the Philippines' premier tourist town, had become, in one horrible minute, a smoking

pile of rubble and bodies. There was no power, no water, no communication with the outside world. Although the full scope of the disaster did not become clear until later, more than 400 residents died that July 16 in Baguio, more than 2,000 homes were destroyed and tens of thousands of the city's 200,000 citizens were forced into the streets.

After surveying the damage, Villanueva, a 43-year-old Manila-born artist whose exploration of indigenous themes has won him international acclaim, turned to his friends in Baguio's small but vibrant arts community. In part to settle their own nerves, but mostly to answer a pressing need, they decided to take action. "Just looking around, it was clear something needed to be done," Villanueva says with a shrug.

The Cafe by the Ruins, a breezy bamboo gathering place for artists that was nicknamed for the remains of a neighbouring mansion, was quickly transformed into a soup kitchen. Staffed largely by artist volunteers, the cafe doled out 2,000 meals a day for hungry residents.

Energised by the success of the soup kitchen, the three-year-old Baguio Arts Guild sent members to downtown Baguio's Burnham Park, which had been turned into a

giant tent city. Going from tent to tent, the artists invited children for free classes in mask-making and painting, sculpture, and theatre, music and dance. For several weeks the classes — dubbed Art Aid — he helped families come to terms with both the physical and emotional trauma of the quake and its aftershocks. It also gave hundreds of children a firsthand look at the visual and performing arts, a rare opportunity for impoverished Filipino

nueva for help in staging a memorial service for the dozens of students and teachers killed in the quake. Villanueva, long-haired and bearded and taken to wearing colourful hand-made clothing, was not used to being asked to participate in mainstream civic functions. But he obliged by restaging a piece of performance art that he had introduced to a puzzled community nearly a year before.

At the post-earthquake

In July 1990 Roberto Villanueva was on a bus heading out from Manila when the earth heaved and shattered under his hometown of Baguio. With landslides blocking all the roads to the mountain city, Villanueva decided he would rather walk the last 22 kilometres than return to the steamy capital and wait for word about his family.

"Sitting in Manila with no information would have been torture," he explains. An easy five-hour trip had suddenly become an 18-hour nightmare. Soaked by rain, Villanueva arrived at his doorstep at three in the morning. His family was fine, but the city — the country's summer capital and, more recently, a haven for artists — was in ruins.

young.

Meanwhile, as the city looked for ways to mourn its loss and face the daunting task of rebuilding, the president of the University of Baguio approached Villa-

service, Villanueva and his friends repeated their improvised ritual on manmade Burnham Lake, setting candles afloat in coconut shells and launching two small candle-bearing rafts amid haunting

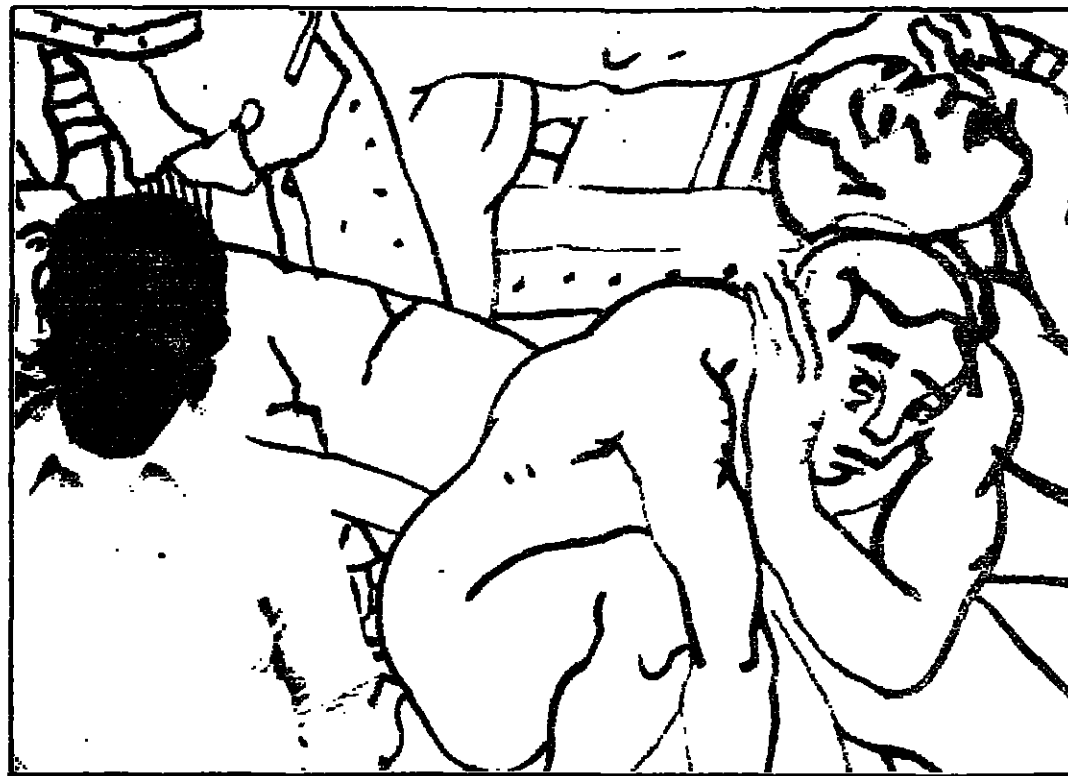
flute music. This time, though, photocopies of the victims' pictures were placed on the rafts. "The parents were really crying as they lit the candles," he recalls. What a year earlier had been a strange spectacle performed by a group of outsiders had become a public gesture of healing and empathy.

If the new engagement signaled a change in the way the artists view their community, it also signaled a subtle change in the way the artists were viewed by the rest of the city. "People used to think of us as drug addicts and eccentrics," says Ben Cabrera, a painter and printmaker who is perhaps the best known of Baguio's artists. "But they began to realise. 'Hey — they're really helping us!'"

"Usually we work as individuals," adds Adelaida Lim-Perez, one of the owners of the Cafe by the Ruins and a leader in the arts community. "But seeing the effect of the earthquake on everybody here in Baguio, it really made us band together. We weren't in our ivory towers — we were involved."

Lim-Perez was a driving force behind a 15-day congress of over 200 grassroots organisations called late last year to map out a future for the city. It was an unprecedented meeting, and it captured the imagination of many of Baguio's artists. Villanueva, for example, joined the ecology workshops rather than those dedicated to the arts. He even wrote a resolution, later adopted by the city, that called for an annual day to be set aside for tree planting.

"Art is not just making paintings, but it's also educating and sharing," states Santiago Bose, a leading Baguio artist who organised a successful benefit auction in



Dave Baradas, president of the Baguio Arts Guild poses in front of a painting by Ben Cabrera.

Manila. "Art should be a healing experience."

In a time of collective trauma, many in the community — from miners and farmers to merchants and politicians — have begun to appreciate the healing value of their city's artistic resources. "We are being recognised, little by little," reports Villanueva. "It seems like everyone is patting us on the shoulder now, telling us we're doing a good job."

Artistically, the earthquake had mixed effects. Villanueva, devoting himself to meetings and relief efforts, suffered a loss in productivity but felt an increase in commitment. For Cabrera, who was having trouble meeting a deadline for solo show in New York, the catastrophe provided instant inspiration. His show was ultimately titled "Aftermath," and featured moralistic drawings and paintings of people caught unprepared for a world that had come loose from its moorings.

But the artist says he found the earthquake — and the weeks of rain that followed — far more depressing than inspiring. "Aftermath" is full of images of shared experience, but it is not optimistic. "There are no images of rebuilding, of rehabilitation," Cabrera notes.

One practical problem posed by the quake was the loss of the city's four leading art-viewing spaces. With few places to show in Baguio, some established artists have been looking to galleries in other cities, while some younger artists have been slowing down or even giving up. That is one reason the Baguio Arts Guild decided to go ahead with the second annual Baguio Arts Festival, a two-week celebration of the visual, literary and performing arts that was held in early December. The theme chosen for the festival was "Art and the Environment," highly fitting in a place where the physical world had just dramatically imposed itself

on people's lives. But most of the work on display dealt with people's imposition on the world — from logging and mining to pollution and war. Only a couple of pieces made any reference to the earthquake.

The festival was less well attended this year, in part because tourists have been avoiding Baguio until they are sure that basic services have been restored. But the national department of tourism, rightly convinced that Baguio is once again ready for visitors, agreed with the local arts community that the show should go on. And indeed, the festival was the first major sign of life from a city that many people had taken for dead.

"People assume that Baguio has just disappeared," says Dave Baradas, president of the arts guild. "But this place has a way of bouncing back. People who know Baguio can't forget it for long." — World News Link.

Is there a little bit of 'Carmen' in all women?

By Kate Dourian

Reuter

LONDON — What do a milkmaid, a parachute-factory worker in the American deep south and an Ecuadorian miner have in common?

They've all been Carmen. French composer Georges Bizet's 19th century opera about a Spanish gypsy femme fatale is the most popular of all time.

Variants of it have set the story anywhere but in the original Spain. There have been more than 30 film versions.

No fewer than four Carmens are being staged in Britain during this season alone, from the strictly classical to the all-black musical "Carmen Jones" from Oscar Hammerstein.

Carmen flaunts her sexuality. She picks and discards her men at will. At the end, a jilted lover kills her. In the original opera he is a soldier who deserted the army for her, only to see her take up with a bullfighter.

Bizet's tunes transcend the confines of classical opera but fail on their own to explain the opera's universal appeal — opening a rich vein of psychological speculation about what draws people to the Carmen story.

"Carmen is myth and opera as that enshrines myth as femininity are very few. That is part of its success," says Covent Garden's resident drama expert Patrick Carnegie.

No self-respecting Soprano's repertoire is complete without Carmen, although the late Maria Callas refused to perform the part on stage apparently because the gypsy costume would reveal her thick ankles.

Yet Carmen, based on a novella by a relatively obscure writer Prosper Merimee, was a flop when it premiered in Paris on March 3, 1875, confirming Bizet's fears.

"I sense defeat," he told his friends before the performance. "I foresee a definite and hopeless flop. This time I am really sunk."

The critics dismissed the now-famous duets and arias as "an orgy of noise" and the genteel audience of the Opera Comique were shocked by a heroine who boasts of

her infidelity, smokes, swears, seduces and smugles.

Bizet died three months later at 36. His best-known work has survived the battle of the sexes and the evolution of feminism.

"Deep down inside I think there's a bit of Carmen in every woman. She just does what she wants, says what she wants, goes where she wants," says Sharon Benson, who sings the role in the current Carmen Jones.

Carmen's character is summed up when she meets her intended victim Jose and sings the words "If you love me, that's the end of you." Carnegie says Carmen is depraved without being totally immoral, a femme fatale but no bimbo, a tragic hero not a victim.

She faces death defiantly rather than submit to a stale relationship.

"This is a woman who craves her own freedom and wants to run her own life. This is a woman who knows that the authentic self is the self on its own — it's a very modern idea," says Carnegie.

"Understanding Carmen is not so difficult. It's the effect she has on other people that provides the catharsis, the tragedy for those around her," he adds.

Carnegie says the story of Carmen travels well because people of all cultures can identify with it.

"It certainly is a universal opera. It's been done in so many languages. It has been staged in a dairy, a mine shaft in Ecuador, a cigarette plant, a parachute factory — anything you imagine about Carmen the myth has been done with more to follow," said Carnegie.

Hammerstein's resetting in America's deep south swaps treacherous soldiers and smugglers for GIs, boxers and girls from a parachute factory all singing in southern drawl. Escamille becomes husky miller and Jose becomes plain Joe.

It won the award for Best Broadway Musical in 1943, a tribute to Hammerstein and a posthumous prize for a composer of another decade. Just opened in London, it has already been acclaimed as the best show in town.

French outsider wins laurels in piano competition

By Eva Kaluzynska

Reuter

BRUSSELS — Frenchman Frank Braley is resting strained tendons after winning a month-long contest rated the most gruelling of its kind in the world.

He is a pianist, not an athlete.

His surprise capture this month of the Queen Elizabeth Award, rivalled in prestige only by Moscow's Tchaikovsky Competition and Warsaw's Chopin Prize, took as much endurance and versatility as any marathon or deathmatch. It was his first win in a major international competition.

The week-long finals are treated like a top-class sporting and social event in Belgium. Radio and TV give blanket prime-time coverage

every night in Flemish and French, the country's two main languages.

King Baudouin, Queen Fabiola and Prime Minister Wilfried Martens all came to listen to the finalists' public competition recitals at Brussels' Palais Des Beaux Arts. The contest is named in honour of the king's grandmother.

Braley's victory in a field with 148 starters surprised and delighted critics and audience as much as it did him. Big piano contests tend to be dominated by more robust styles. Even his own teachers in Paris had warned Braley that contests like this were for bigger, bolder players than him.

"I never thought it would be me, it's the start of everything for me. It's a real be-

fore and after story," Braley said in an interview.

The slight, long-haired pianist, who is 22 and took up music full-time only after finishing high school, entered at the last minute, offering pieces he knew well rather than a programme he had tailored specially.

"I was very surprised every time I got through a stage in the selection," he said. He thought some of the others were much better technicians, and knew they were more experienced.

For the preliminaries, contestants played a prelude and fugue of Bach's, a work of their choice, and five études. The 24 that survived played a 30-minute recital of a new work, compulsory Mozart and free choices. A dozen became finalists.

Braley's choice of concerto for the final was Beethoven's fourth — very difficult, and dependent on close rapport with the orchestra. "I just didn't think about whether it was the right sort of piece," he said.

Seasoned competitors tend to choose concertos such as those by Tchaikovsky or Rachmaninoff, allowing fireworks displays of virtuosity, and fewer risks.

But Braley's delicate, imaginative playing won the contest with a Beethoven concerto for the first time in its 64-year history. "He came with a repertoire for a concert, not a contest," one critic remarked.

No-one begrudged him his prize as beginner's luck. "You can't win this one by accident," said one of the

runners-up.

Stephen Prutsman and Brian Ganz, both Americans, came second and third. Six finalists were from East and Central Europe. The youngest, Alexander Melnikov, 18, from the Soviet Union, was fifth, and an elfin Czechoslovak, Igor Ardasev, sixth.

The 22-strong jury is made up of world-class soloists and teachers, as well as former finalists in the contest, which rotates annually as a piano, violin and singing competition.

The 12 finalists spend an intensive week working cloistered away before the last stage of the contest, and the rapport that builds up between them is real despite the rivalry.

Many were there the night

Braley, having won the contest, performed his winner's recital. "I think he's fantastic," said Haesun Paik from Korea, who came fourth, the highest-placed of three women.

Because of his strained tendons, Braley could only perform for half the evening. Prutsman stepped in for the other half.

As winner, Braley said he had already had invitations to play in Japan, the United States, Finland and Germany as well as in Belgium and France.

Braley's doctors have ordered him to cut down his playing.

"Anyone that comes to hear me in the next few weeks is going to think I only know the Beethoven," he said.

Retiree hopes to mass produce graphite violins

By Matt Bivens

The Associated Press

EAST COKER, England (AP) — Harold Stephens lost his violin when he was 16, and in a way he's never stopped looking for it.

At 81, the retired motor company executive is collecting patents for what he calls the first innovation in violin-making in 400 years: A graphite instrument.

With graphite — a synthetic fiber commonly used in tennis rackets and fishing rods — Stephens believes top-quality violins can be mass produced for a fraction of the cost of wooden violins.

Adrian Eales, a co-leader of the Royal Philharmonic, played an early prototype of Stephens' violin and though it was promising.

"I'd rather see a finished product, but judging from the prototype I think it's prob-

ably an extremely good idea," said Eales, who suggested some modifications to Stephens.

Eales, who is head of the Music Department at Marlborough College, said the graphite violin's novel appearance and durability could be strong selling points. He was also impressed with the proposed price, which Stephens puts at £150 (\$225).

"I haven't got a bow worth as little as £150," said Eales, who plays a traditional violin he commissioned from Gimpel Solomon of New York for £5,000 (\$8,500).

"Assuming he makes some refinements, if a student came along with very little funds, I would say, 'look, try the Stephens violin,'" Eales said.

The tale of the Stephens violin begins 65 years ago, as he explained over tea at his village home in southwestern England.

"I was in my teens when I was playing a violin. I was not very talented," Stephens said. "And in consequence of losing a good violin, I made up my mind right then that I would learn how to make a new one that was just as good."

That decision was put on hold for 33 years while Stephens worked for Ford of Britain, as a manager of manufacturing staff. After retiring 20 years ago, Stephens embarked on a rigorous programme to "acquire the craft skills which you need to make a violin."

He started by making furniture. Numerous 18th century style tables, a desk, and even a grandfather clock are scattered about his home.

Then he built wooden violins, violas and cellos. At least 20 violins, hung neatly on a wall like rifles in a gun rack, decorate the main room of the Stephens' home.

At violin factories, such as the Suzuki factory in Japan, wood is machine-cut and the violins are built on assembly lines.

It takes six months to build a higher quality violin by hand, and the instruments are expensive.

Among contemporarily-made custom violins, the most expensive can fetch \$40,000 to \$50,000, according to dealers.

David Murdoch, a dealer with the John And Arthur Beare Co., said such prices can only be commanded by fashionable makers, such as Bellini of New York, who has a three-year waiting list.

Graphite fiber became widely available about five years ago, and Stephens began to experiment with it in his attic workshop. After constructing four satisfactory prototypes, he estimated that a high quality graphite violin could be turned out in a few

hours. Graphite violin bows have been around for years, and haven't won much respect, according to Helen Wallace, editor of The Strad, a magazine for aficionados of stringed instruments.

"Nobody who is a serious violinist uses a graphite bow. They fall far short of the ideal. Far short," she said.

Whether Stephens' graphite violin will receive the same chilly welcome, Wallace couldn't say. But Stephens is prepared for skepticism.

"I'll tell you what (a former) president of the American Society of Violin Makers said, when I talked about it to him," Stephens said. "He said, 'as far as I'm concerned Mr. Stephens, violin making is an art form, and I prefer that it should remain so.' In other words, he didn't want to know."

"Why didn't he want to

know? Because he is a dealer in violins."

Stephens has received patents from China, the United States and Britain. He said he delayed pursuing patents in Japan and Germany for lack of money.

He believes he'll have all the bugs worked out of his design in 18 months, and that the graphite violin — and perhaps also a graphite cello, viola and contrabass — will be available worldwide within the next five years.

If so, Stephens is confident he'll more than recoup the money his passion has devoured. Patents alone have cost him £10,000 (\$17,000), he said.

Stephens enjoys violin music, but no longer tries to play. Is he a frustrated musician?

"No," he said firmly. "I'm not going to admit to being frustrated at anything."

Helping drug addicts is dangerous business

By Clare Pedrick

BAGHERIA, Italy — Don Salvatore Lo Bue will not easily forget his earliest attempts to set up a community for young drug addicts. The 49-year-old priest and his young charges were mysteriously evicted from their first premises by their landlord, also a priest, who was almost certainly frightened into signing the order by the mafia, said Don Salvatore, a sociologist by profession. Finding a new site proved a difficult task. No one wanted to rent to him. When he finally convinced someone to lease him a piece of uncultivated land in the Sicilian town of Bagheria, there were

more unpleasant shocks in store.

"First they killed our dog and dumped its body in the pond, which in mafia circles is a message meant as a warning," Don Salvatore explained. "Then one morning we woke up to find 11 of our olive trees had been cut down during the night. Finally, someone sawed through the wheel nuts of my car. One of the kids discovered it quite by chance. If he hadn't, and I had driven off, I probably wouldn't be here today."

The reason for the mafia's hostility to the community, known as the "Casa dei Giovani" (The Home of the Young), is clear. "We are taking kids away from the

mafia drug market," said Don Salvatore. "Even though we only have places for 35 at any one time, we still have to be extremely careful and keep a low profile."

The mafia stronghold on the narcotics market, and its chosen role for Sicily as the refinery headquarters for heroin, has left the island an unenviable legacy. The province of Palermo has one of the highest concentrations of drug addicts in the whole of Italy. Bagheria, a small town half an hour's drive from the Sicilian capital and home to Don Salvatore's community, was once known for its artists and its splendid patrician villas. Today, the villas are

crumbling ruins, popular only with Japanese tourists. The town itself is a hotbed of crime, the centre of the ominously named Triangle of Death, an area notorious for its violent killings and its drug trafficking. "In Bagheria, which has just 50,000 inhabitants, the official figures say there are at least 250 drug addicts, though there are certainly far more," said Don Salvatore. "In Palermo itself, there are around 2,500."

The Sicilian priest, who wears regular clothes and lives in an apartment inside his family's own crumbling, but splendidly frescoed 16th century villa, is no ordinary cleric. He has a telephone in his car to keep him in touch

with the other three communities he has founded in southern Italy, and once a week he flies north to Rome to spend two days teaching sociology at the Vatican's Angelicum University. He has plowed much of his own money into the rehabilitation centres, which have become his life's work. In spite of its dramatic drug problem, Sicily's public health service makes no provision for its victims.

Today the Casa dei Giovani is an impressive, highly organised centre, set among olive groves, citrus trees and vegetable plots that the young people cultivate. They also built the wooden sleeping quarters, the pond for the ducks and geese and the sheds and pens for the pigs, goats and cows. There are flowers everywhere. Contact with nature is considered an essential part of the therapy, along with plenty of hard work in the open air and group discussion sessions to talk out the problems that led them to drug abuse.

The average age of the youngsters is 17. Some have been injecting themselves with heroin since their early teens. Most are from poor or broken families, few are educated and most have been in trouble with the law. Some have even spent time in prison for drug trafficking, theft or muggings, crimes that they committed to help pay for their habit. All are here voluntarily, though some had as their only option a jail sentence: for that reason they are not allowed to leave the premises. The young residents will remain here for two years, monitored by Don Salvatore and his team of helpers, many of whom are former addicts. If they stay the course, they have a 99 per cent chance of freeing themselves forever from the grip of drug addiction, says Don Salvatore. When they leave, they are helped to find jobs and to adjust to a normal life.

For many of the young addicts, drug-taking was a

way of escaping the squalid conditions of their everyday lives and their poor prospects for the future, the priest said. "The kids who come from the poor areas of the towns have nothing to look forward to," he said. Taking drugs, and associating with the mafia hoods who control the market, is a way of adding some glamour to their lives, he added. To illustrate his point, Don Salvatore told the story of Franco, a former addict who came to the community at the age of 18, having started injecting himself at 14. He had spent three years of his short life in prison. As a young teenager he made friends with the local mafia boss to gain the respect and admiration of his friends. He soon started taking drugs and stealing.

"He told me he began carrying out muggings and robberies so he would go to prison and that when he came out his friends would look up to him," said Don Salvatore. "He didn't steal because he needed to, but because he wanted to acquire a role in life. And he took drugs to show the other kids that he could afford to."

Franco has left now. He no longer takes drugs, and with Don Salvatore's help, he has found a job and a new life. Maurizio, 22, is still in the community. He began taking heroin at 16. "I used to get money from my elder brothers and sisters," he said. "And I stole money and jewelry from the house. I also took radios and other things from people's cars. I'm really very timid. I can't believe I did those things now. I did it because I needed the money to pay for drugs."

Anna Rita, 23, began taking heroin at the age of 18. She resisted attempts by her family to wean her and she left home. Finally, very ill and lonely, she agreed to try Don Salvatore's centre. "It hasn't been easy," she said. "At one stage, I ran away, but I came back again after 10 days. I'll soon be leaving



Despite threats and intimidation, Sicilian priest Don Salvatore Lo Bue has established a centre whose mission is to help young addicts become drug free and live useful lives.

now and I want to work, which is something I've never done in my life. I also want to have children and a family. I've learned a lot since I've been here."

Ciro, 32, arrived at the centre in September 1989 after nearly 15 years of drug-taking, on and off. "I really plumed the depths," he said. "I spent some time in Ucciardone (Palermo's jail) and it was that which really decided me that I had to stop. I managed it for three and a half years, but then I had problems with a girlfriend and I went back to it. After a year, I realised I had to give it up, but that I could only do it with the help of other people. Since then, I've discovered I'm HIV positive." (HIV contains the AIDS virus).

Don Salvatore is not optimistic about the future for Sicily's young people. The mafia's influence is stronger than ever, he said, and the state has done little to provide youngsters with an alternative to a life of crime and drugs. "If you see where these young people grow up, it's not hard to understand why so many of them go astray," he said, pointing to a small, barely lit alley in downtown Palermo with ramshackle houses that were never repaired after the bombing raids of World War II. Outside, there is garbage everywhere. Inside, in a cramped living room, is a large shabby bed.

"Some of the kids who come here have been mixed up with the mafia at high levels," explained the priest. "Unemployment is terrifically high here, especially amongst the young — between 30 and 35 per cent — so it's very easy for the mafia to recruit youngsters, even to act as hired killers for them. In Catania, it's said that you can hire a teenage assassin for as little as 500,000 lire (\$400)." — World News Link.

The deadly tie that binds

WHAT do coconuts, bathtubs, olives, shawls and goldfish have in common? All of them, along with countless other receptacles, have been used by the international drug trade to smuggle cocaine and heroin around the globe. The techniques have become so sophisticated, the links between drug producers and organised crime so well knit and the volume of profits so huge that the illegal narcotics industry equals the gross national product of Canada, the eighth world power.

Estimates of the illegal drug trade go as high as \$700 billion annually, with \$500 billion being laundered through industry and legitimate business. As much as \$250 billion of that is net profit. International anti-narcotics officials estimate that there are close to 50 million drug abusers worldwide.

On the economic level, countries that are drug producers or transit points lose billions in revenues each year as drug traffickers hide their profits in offshore bank accounts and foreign investments or recycle them into businesses such as sports clubs. Besides losing tax dollars and revenues to boost local economies, producer/transit countries are forced to spend often limited resources to clean up environment polluted by the chemicals used to process heroin and cocaine and to create and support antidrug forces and programmes.

Even as economies suffer, societies everywhere are losing their most precious asset — their people. The scourge of illegal drug trafficking, with its attendant drug abuse and violence, is reaching into communities around the globe, from the remote, misty hills of northwest China to the teeming cities of Colombia, from the affluent youth of Milan to the children of Bangkok's worst slums. Georgina Dufort,

France's official antidrug campaign director, has ranked drug addiction alongside poverty and environmental damage as "one of the biggest challenges to humanity."

Along with those who have fallen victim to drug abuse are the legions of law-enforcement officers and members of the judiciary and the press who have lost their lives in the battle against drug trafficking. The Times of India reported in February that in Latin America alone more than 600 journalists had been assassinated for their antidrug stance during the past 13 years.

In 1985 the Colombian cocaine cartels began a drive to create markets in Europe and to establish distribution networks with organised crime in Europe. In that year they made agreements with the mafia crime syndicates of southern Italy. The effectiveness of the distribution network is apparent in the volume of cocaine shipments seized since then. In 1986 West European police seized close to 1.5 tonnes of cocaine. In 1989 authorities confiscated more than 7.5 tonnes.

The five articles that follow present snapshots of the human wreckage and chaos that have emerged from drug trafficking and abuse in two countries, Italy and Switzerland. Four of the articles describe the steps being taken by southern Italian officials and community leaders to heal the victims and counter corruption and organised crime. The fifth article concentrates on Zurich's notorious "Needle Park," where local authorities have allowed the open consumption and sale of drugs for the past two years even though the use of illicit drugs is outlawed. The country has an estimated 30,000 drug addicts and the greatest number of drug-related deaths per capita in Europe — World News Link.

Weekend Crossword

GIRL TALK

By Norma Steinberg

- ACROSS
- 1 "Barbara"
 - 2 Kermit's g
 - 3 Ruth's mother-in-law
 - 4 Singer-songwriter
 - 5 Without help
 - 6 Skunk
 - 7 Church
 - 8 Adjutant
 - 9 Jacket suit abbr
 - 10 She's a patient and
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 - 13 She's a patient and
 - 14 She's a patient and
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 - 2 Sam cream
 - 3 Ingredients
 - 4 Singer Falsetto
 - 5 Unilateral
 - 6 Jacket suit abbr
 - 7 Fair attraction
 - 8 Piece of poetry
 - 9 Fr. policeman
 - 10 Not a soul
 - 11 Scene of action
 - 12 Give the eye
 - 13 — de tite
 - 14 Pig — poke
 - 15 Half of all
 - 16 Comic day
 - 17 Mole
 - 18 Crani
 - 19 Arkon or Bates
 - 20 Liquid medicine
 - 21 Ready to pour
 - 22 Disposal (off)
 - 23 Johnstown
 - 24 Dealer
 - 25 Peel
 - 26 Alumnus for short
 - 27 Apertures
 - 28 She's peaceful
 - 29 Butcher's
 - 30 Ostriches
 - 31 She's peaceful
 - 32 — Ben Jonson's
 - 33 Hold back
 - 34 Refuse
 - 35 Salt water
 - 36 Values
 - 37 Dallas
 - 38 surname
 - 39 Notable verb
 - 40 — Boothe Luce
 - 41 She's a Dile
 - 42 Only river
 - 43 Legal papers
 - 44 Lead film
 - 45 — was a tad
 - 46 Kitchen gadgets
 - 47 Nodding
 - 48 Land of a kind
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 - 50 — distance
 - 51 Adam's grandson
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Diagramless 17 X 17, By Don Johnson

- ACROSS
- 1 At considerable distance
 - 2 Shopping center
 - 3 Day of films
 - 4 Air plant
 - 5 More tranquil
 - 6 By —
 - 7 Intention of (surprise)
 - 8 5-pointed star
 - 9 Remarkable thing
 - 10 Gads
 - 11 Shift
 - 12 Baseball team
 - 13 Famous person
 - 14 For short
 - 15 Disparages
 - 16 Above
 - 17 Malaysian sailboat
 - 18 Sought for (intention of surprise)
 - 19 Wine word
 - 20 Waterfalls, Scot.
 - 21 City, near Istanbul
 - 22 Snare
 - 23 Cut
 - 24 Indian prince
 - 25 Skunk
 - 26 Alaska contents
 - 27 Opposite
 - 28 Ebbled
 - 29 Certain cast member
 - 30 Baby bed
 - 31 Famous Wagner
 - 32 Of baseball
 - 33 Benic the head
 - 34 Surgery
 - 35 Paving for
 - 36 Painted pants
 - 37 Grave
 - 38 The emine when brown
 - 39 Certain ship
 - 40 Sea eagles
 - 41 Baby bed
 - 42 Famous Wagner
 - 43 Of baseball
 - 44 Rotates
 - 45 Superman's —
 - 46 Tale of time
 - 47 Wall hanging old style
 - 48 Dwelling
 - 49 Richards or Taylor
 - 50 — five
 - 51 Linceo
 - 52 Prophet
 - 53 Time zone letters

- DOWN
- 1 Army posts
 - 2 Length times
 - 3 Circle
 - 4 Hearts or spades
 - 5 Solo
 - 6 Cherished
 - 7 Looks at suggestively
 - 8 Star in Cygnus
 - 9 — of the Yukon
 - 10 Cuts
 - 11 Indian prince
 - 12 Skunk
 - 13 Alaska contents
 - 14 Opposite
 - 15 Ebbled
 - 16 Certain cast member
 - 17 Baby bed
 - 18 Famous Wagner
 - 19 Of baseball
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 - 38 Linceo
 - 39 Prophet
 - 40 Time zone letters

Companies promote liquor to help liver, bubble gum for teeth

By Kathy Chensault
The Associated Press

QIANJIANG, China — A liquor that cures liver problems? Bubble gum that prevents tooth decay?

The claims are not unusual for sellers of Chinese herbal concoctions, and consumers are getting little help from the authorities — who leave drug regulation to a patchwork quilt of national and local bodies.

Although some preparations have been banned as outright harmful, experts say untested products that do nothing or make their buyers sicker still slip through the net.

There are elixirs from powdered ants that allegedly cure rheumatoid arthritis, herbs said to end sterility, and other herbs that, together with acupuncture, are supposed to correct colour blindness.

One manufacturer claims its pillows filled with herbs cure neck stiffness. Doctors say some of the

herbs may indeed have medicinal qualities, but are unlikely to fulfill all the claims made for them. China has no central food and drug supervisory office, with responsibility for investigating claims divided among various departments on the national, provincial and county levels.

"There is lack of coordination between different units," said Gao Zhongmin of the food quality inspection office in Hubei province.

At the Yuan Lin Qing distillery in the small Hubei town of qianjiang, 820 kilometres (510 miles) west of Shanghai, workers see nothing odd in the claims made for their sorghum liquor.

One, 36-year-old Chen Junguo, gave a personal testimonial.

"I myself suffered from arthritis and also a liver problem," he said. "I'm not a technician or expert, but after drinking it my liver became normal."

The liquor is one of countless Chinese herbal products that are advertised as curing a

wide range of ailments and illnesses, from hangovers to cancer and AIDS.

Chinese officials have monitored the products more closely in recent years because of health concerns, said Wang Mianzhi, a professor at the Beijing College of traditional Chinese medicine.

Wang, a doctor of traditional medicine, said over the past three years the government banned the sale of 600 traditional medicine products, some of which actually caused serious health problems.

Other products do not pose direct health risks, but do harm by delaying proper treatment, he said. No one has tried to calculate the number of people harmed by taking the alleged miracle cures, or the amount of money mispent on them.

Despite greater government attention, thousands of dubious products remain on the market, including Yuan Lin Qing liquor.

Wang, told about the liquor, said it sounded harm-

ful. "I agree alcohol does harm to the liver so this is not good," he said.

Gao said his office has not tested the liquor to see if it really helps livers. Still, he said, "It's ok for the company to promote that way."

Distillery director Zhou Yiting said his workers add herbs praised by Chinese traditional doctors to the sorghum mash. Although 39 per cent of the liquors content is alcohol, generally considered harmful to the liver, Zhou said the herbs turn into "a tonic for health."

The label says the beverage can "benefit the liver and spleen and invigorate vital energy."

Zhou recommends a small glass each day with the mid-day meal and another with dinner. Asked for proof of its health benefits, Zhou said, "Many people here have drunk this for a long time. Some had liver problems and they no longer suffer."

The Chinese media often carry reports of products claiming medical cures.

Experts: Cats with AIDS-like virus could provide clues to human virus

BOSTON (AP) — When veterinarian Dr. Donald Delink tells cat owners that their pets have the feline form of AIDS, he often sees needless panic.

"Some people say, 'but my cat licked me and bit me. Does that mean I'm going to get AIDS?'" said Delink.

The answer is no — there is no connection between feline immunodeficiency virus, or

FIV, and the virus that causes AIDS in humans, scientists say.

Still, experts say the disease could help provide clues to the human virus.

"The viruses are not so similar that the same vaccine that can be used in cats can also be used in humans," said Dr. Neils C. Pedersen, a physician and veterinarian at the University of California

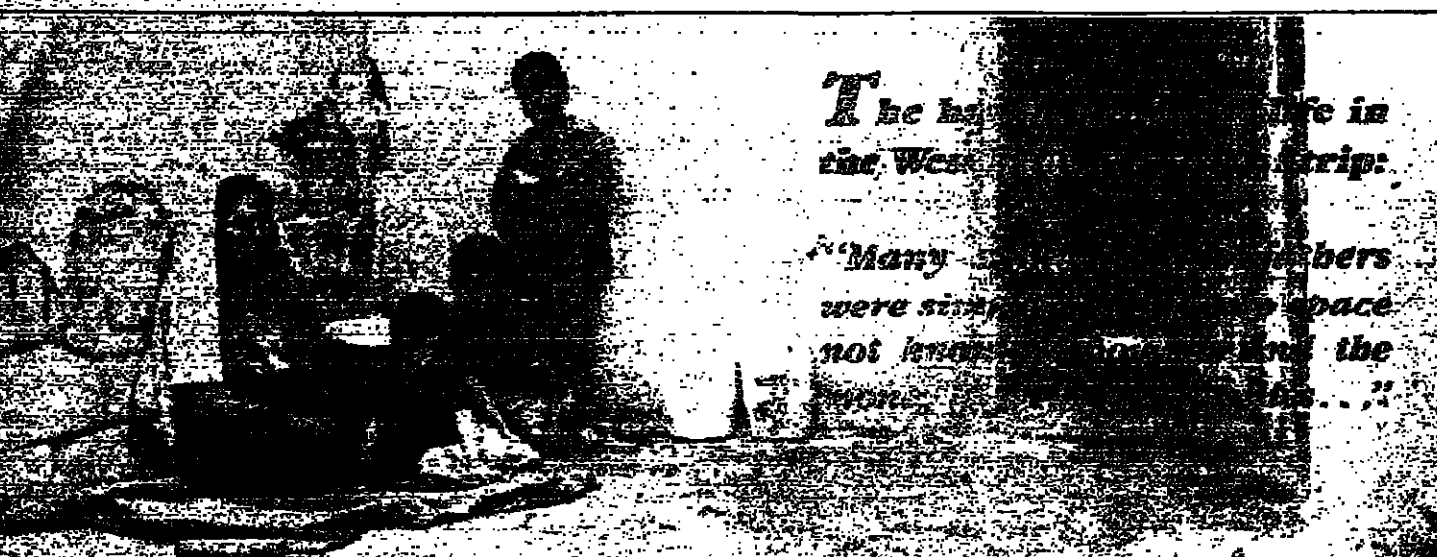
at Davis. "But if the human research shows there is a regimen that can be used in man, it might also work well in cats, and vice versa."

FIV has characteristics similar to the AIDS virus, Pedersen said. But experts say FIV cannot be passed to humans and cats cannot develop human AIDS. And veterinarians are shying away from calling the virus "cat

AIDS."

Pedersen is credited with discovering FIV in 1987 by modifying the AIDS test for a chronically ill cat.

A woman with a cat shelter saw that other cats in contact with the sick cat also became ill, Pedersen said. The woman, suspecting the cat had AIDS, "brought it to Pedersen, who was doing research on the human variety."



Fathers, mothers weep in Gaza

Dr. Masir K. Nasser
Assistant Executive Director
United Palestinian Appeal
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Dr. Nasser:

THE economic situation in the Gaza Strip is becoming more desperate everyday. Most of all, the children are suffering. The Gulf war had a devastating impact on the lives of many residents. A host of factors have contributed to the harsh reality that exists today in Gaza:

- An inhumanly cruel curfew collectively imposed on a population of 700,000 men, women and children;
- An almost totally ineffective social welfare system that very selectively meets out an average of U.S. \$10 per family per month for hardship cases;
- Stoppage of most labourers from going to their work in Israel and elsewhere;

• The imprisonment of the main breadwinners of thousands of families.

Small merchants, craftsmen and factory owners, many of whom previously enjoyed a comfortable standard of living, are now facing financial ruin — something which started during the intifada, and will certainly be realised in full should the curfew continue to drag on. The plight of the day labourer is even more bleak: if the labourer does not work, the family does not eat. A day's work buys enough food for the worker's family for that day only. I would like to emphasise that the financial situation of thousands of families became extremely difficult during the intifada, was worsened drastically during the Gulf war, and continues to be very critical after the war.

Through the course of my work at the Benevolent Society Child Development Centre in Gaza, I have personally gone on many home visits with our

social workers during the curfew. It is difficult to describe how very distraught and desperate we found many families to be. In a few instances we were able to help: many mothers and fathers wept at this gesture. We saw scores of families unable to afford flour, cooking fuel, and staples. Most mothers we visited had no milk for their infants and older children, many of whom were malnourished and/or disabled. We found children burning with fever and no money with which to purchase medications or to pay doctor's fees. Many mothers and fathers were simply staring into space not knowing how to find the money to feed their families, nor how to pay accumulating debts to grocers who had let them buy food on credit. We also saw old people suffering because they could not afford medication, had no health insurance, no warm clothing.

The Child Development Centre is literally inundated by mothers and fathers seeking milk, food, and formula for their youngsters. I have personally seen children begging during curfew. As a trial, I had one child's story checked out. It was true. The family's breadwinner was crippled; the mother was very ill. The one-roomed, leaky-roofed structure in the Daraj Quarter of Gaza was devoid of any food, flour, and cooking fuel. And the human tragedies go on...

I hope that this letter will help you and others who care to understand just how deplorable the true situation is here in the Gaza Strip.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to help us to help the many families in the Gaza Strip who are at the brink of losing all hope.

Very truly yours,
Geraldine Shawwa,
Executive Coordinator,
The Benevolent Society
for the Gaza Strip,
Child Development Centre.

Cabinet seen able to pass test

(Continued from page 1)

The sources say that while some ministers are calling on Mr. Masri to clarify in the policy statement that his government is not a "negotiations government," others have rejected this idea arguing that it has always been the standing policy of the Kingdom to advocate a peaceful end to the Arab-Israeli conflict based on international legitimacy and United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338.

The Muslim Brotherhood as well as radical Arab nationalists have expressed their concern that Palestinian-born Masri, who held the post of foreign minister in the previous government, would enter into negotiations over the Palestinian problem which would lead to a solution short of their target of the complete liberation of all Palestinian land.

Other ministers, however, have argued that it has always been the standing policy of Jordan to advocate peace and that this government should not fear being a supporter of peace as long as it is based on international legitimacy and U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338.

These ministers also maintain that the Muslim Brotherhood is using this argument as a cover-up to cloak their rejection of Mr. Masri's government.

Analysts and observers predict that Mr. Masri will present a compromise formula on this point in which he will stress Jordan's desire for making progress in peace efforts while seeking to base this progress on Jordan's conditions for international legitimacy.

Sources also add that many favourable votes are contingent on the policy statement naming the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In general the sources and analysts say, Mr. Masri and his Cabinet will provide the House with a comprehensive plan which will deal with the different aspects of local concerns and issues based on the foundations of the National Charter, which was signed by all the political forces represented in Parliament.

"We know that Parliament cannot discuss with us any technical points outside what was laid out in the National Charter," one cabinet minister said. "This is the government of the charter and the application of its stipulations which were agreed upon and signed by all sides."

This is precisely, analysts maintain, why the government decided to present itself for a vote of confidence quickly although not required to do so by law until the regular session of the House in November.

Although there were legal arguments against going before Parliament for a vote of confidence, Mr. Masri decided to make this move to highlight the confidence his government has in itself and to gain the mandate to start working effectively in a mood of democracy instead of delaying the whole process for months, cabinet sources told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Masri wanted a political mandate before he embarked on his work, one analyst said.

The premier, the sources added, has asked his cabinet ministers to prepare the plans and internal policies of their ministries which would cover the period leading up to the end of 1992.

Paramount among this Cabinet's collective agenda are enacting the political parties law, the press and publications law and the elections law as well as strengthening the judicial authority and avoiding centralism in executive policies and decisions.

Those close to the government fear that the bureaucracy that has become symptomatic of the administrative state in Jordan could hinder any effort at administrative reform and overhauling the administrative make-up of government offices and departments.

Some cited the civil service system as the main obstacle to any real reform. "All efforts are doomed to failure if we do not start employing the right man for the job instead of being limited to the system of automatic promotion as stipulated by the civil service law," one observer argued.

But, most importantly, the government would have to at least lay out a policy for curbing unemployment and tackling the economy which threatens to be the biggest task facing any reformer. The premier, in his meeting with the Jordanian editors-in-chief last week, pointed to increasing investment as a way to dealing with these problems.

However, analysts add, Mr. Masri's government will also be faced with the task of bringing back a balance in inter-Arab relations in spite of the incredible difficulties on that path as a way of at least halting any

increase of unemployment resulting from the possible return of another 100,000 Jordanians from the Gulf states.

One source said that there were awesome difficulties facing Mr. Masri in that direction, especially since there were no real indication that the Gulf states are moving towards reconciliation.

In the final analysis, Mr. Masri's government will have to pass the confidence session debates before it embarks on any policies pertaining to local, Arab or international policies.

Observers, unable to divide the votes among the blocs in Parliament or its independent members as of yet, say that there is confidence that Mr. Masri's Cabinet will not be faced with 41 no votes.

"The constitution is clear. The government can only fall if 41 people clearly opposed it and this is not going to happen to this government," one deputy said.

The law considers abstentions from voting as favourable to the government and therefore any count of votes will necessarily add the yes votes as well as the abstentions to indicate support for the government.

Lebanese Army pound Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

Egypt, Libya and Syria, which has 40,000 troops in Lebanon.

Mr. Zeid Wehbe, the PLO representative in Lebanon, said the guerrillas would fight to the death if necessary.

"The situation is very dark. It is bleak... we will defend ourselves to the last drop of blood," he told Reuters.

Guerrillas said they feared the army wanted to force them out of Lebanon. It would be the third time in a decade the PLO has withdrawn its forces in defeat.

In Tunis, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat urged France, Britain and the Soviet Union to help stop the fighting. He also appealed to

PLO holds urgent talks

(Continued from page 1)

Since then, she said, "a number of questions" have come back from the Syrians through the U.S. ambassador in Damascus. "So it has not been like the letter was just handed them and there's been no communication since then," she said.

Referring to Mr. Bush's remarks at a July 1 news conference in Maine, Ms. Tutwiler pointed out that the president said he would like to see the situation in the Middle East resolved peacefully. "It's something that he cares about," she said.

After Tuesday's meeting, Mr. Hussein and Mrs. Ashrawi said they stressed that there must be a role for the PLO in the peace process.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, which lasted more than an hour, Mr. Hussein said: "We insisted that the PLO must have a role in negotiations."

Mrs. Ashrawi said that the leadership of the PLO is determined through a "democratic process" and that the question of leadership is "an internal Palestinian issue."

"The Palestine National Council voted the current leadership in, and the current leadership will continue until it is voted out," she said.

Asked if Mr. Hussein and she have been in contact with Chairman Arafat, Mrs. Ashrawi said, "we are not allowed to be in touch with the PLO officially, it is illegal."

Mr. Hussein said the meeting with Secretary Baker was a "continuation of talks started in Jerusalem... We hope that this meeting will be followed by other meetings."

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Financial Markets

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U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE Date: 2/7/91	TOKYO CLOSE Date: 3/7/91
Swiss Franc	1.6050	1.6050
Deutsche Mark	4.8344	1.8288
Swiss Franc	1.5825	1.5776
French Franc	6.2125	6.2045 **
Japanese Yen	158.77	139.32
European Currency Unit	1.1200	1.1220**

* USD Per 100
** European Opening @ 6:00 a.m. GMT

Interbank bid rates for currencies excluding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	6.00	6.12	6.37	6.61
Sterling Pound	17.18	10.93	10.68	10.62
Deutsche Mark	8.81	9.00	9.18	9.18
Swiss Franc	7.62	7.75	7.75	7.56
French Franc	9.66	9.62	9.62	9.62
Japanese Yen	7.43	7.56	7.50	7.37
European Currency Unit	9.90	9.93	10.06	10.00

Currency	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	367.25	7.00	Silver	4.40	.10

* 27 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 3/7/91

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.689	.691
Sterling Pound	1.1026	1.1081
Deutsche Mark	.3753	.3772
Swiss Franc	.4355	.4377
French Franc	.1108	.1114
Japanese Yen	.4947	.4972
Dutch Guilder	.3332	.3344
Swedish Krona	.1039	.1044
Italian Lira	.0506	.0509
Belgian Franc	.01823	.01832

Per 100

Other Currencies Date: 3/7/91

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8700	1.8350
Lebanese Lira	.0755	.0770
Saudi Riyal	.1835	.1843
Kuwaiti Dinar		
Qatari Riyal	.1862	.1875
Egyptian Pound	.1850	.2000
Omani Riyal	1.7800	1.7900
UAE Dirham	.1862	.1875
Greek Drachma	.3350	.3560
Cypriot Pound	1.3760	1.4060

Per 100

CAB Indices for Amman Financial Markets

Index	1/7/91	Close	2/7/91	Close
All-Share	112.85		112.17	
Banking Sector	107.19		106.35	
Insurance Sector	118.15		118.47	
Industry Sector	118.83		118.42	
Services Sector	130.69		129.31	

December 31, 1990 - 100

U.S. remains world's biggest debtor country

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States was still the world's biggest debtor nation last year, but depending on how it's measured, the situation is either getting better or getting worse, Commerce Department figures released Tuesday show.

The department released two sets of figures — the first showed a \$27.5 billion improvement in America's debtor position last year, the second, a \$92.9 billion deterioration.

But according to both, the United States was still in the hole by more than \$350 billion in 1990 because foreigners' investments here were worth more than U.S. investments abroad.

"None of the ... data should obscure the fact that the United States had to borrow ... more from the rest of the world than it lent," said Mr. Robert Blecker, an economist with the Economic Policy Institute liberal think-tank.

The first set of figures released by the Commerce Department attempt to value U.S. investment in factories and equipment overseas and foreign investment here at the cost of replacing them.

Based on that calculation, the United States was in the red by \$412.2 billion last year.

That's an improvement from \$439.7 billion in 1989 and reflects a rise in the value of foreign currencies against the dollar.

The second calculation values investments based on stock market prices. Under that calculation, the United States was in the hole by \$360.6 billion last year, compared to \$267.7 billion in 1989.

The deterioration in the U.S. position under that measure reflects a sharp decline in foreign stock prices. That reduced the value under this more volatile calculation of U.S. investments overseas.

In the past, the Commerce Department only released one set of figures detailing America's net international investment position. Those figures, called historical cost data, valued U.S. investments abroad and foreign investments here at the price at which they were bought.

But the department decided to stop releasing that calculation after criticism from conservatives

that it painted an excessively gloomy picture.

Meanwhile, net foreign purchases of U.S. equities totalled about \$2.6 billion in the first quarter of this year after five consecutive quarters of net sales, the Securities Industry Association has said.

The net foreign purchases were related to factors that included the U.S. stock market rally, declining U.S. interest rates and a rapidly rising dollar, said Mr. David Strongin, director of international finance at the association.

Foreign net purchases of equities in the quarter began rising in February, reaching about \$1.1 billion.

In January, foreigners had net sales of about \$800 million. Foreigners continued making net purchases in March, totalling more than \$2.2 billion, the most since net purchases of \$2.5 billion in September 1989.

In the fourth quarter of 1990, net sales totalled \$5.9 billion, the association said. In the five quarters to the one that ended March 31, 1991, net sales of equities totalled \$12.5 billion.

Stock exchange in South China Zone officially opens

SHENZHEN, China (R) — China's communist leaders placed their cautious chop of approval on the Shenzhen stock exchange Wednesday, allowing the official beginning of an ambitious financial experiment.

"Under the correct leadership of the Communist Party and the state council (cabinet) the road to stock reform is bright," Mr. Zhu Senlin, acting governor of Guangdong province, said in a speech.

Wednesday's official exchange opening marked the end of over three years of grey-market trading in the South China Zone, where nascent capitalists have repeatedly butted heads with the hardline leadership in Beijing.

China is pushing ahead with stock markets because of simple economics. While the state has no more money to support enterprises, there is a huge amount of untapped funds — more than 130 billion dollars worth — sitting in People's Bank accounts and hidden under their mattresses.

Since the city's first company began issuing shares in 1987, China's political changes have kept Shenzhen's punters hopping, sending the "unofficial market" through a boom-bust cycle that would unnerve hardened players in New York, London or Tokyo.

So far direct foreign investment in the stock market is not expressly permitted, although some Hong Kong-based individuals and companies have used local connections to enter the market. Exchange spokesman Zhang

Pengyi said officials were considering issuing a special class of shares or a "Shenzhen fund" to bring in foreign investors. He did not give details.

China allowed share trading starting in the 1980s, with the most active centres in Shenzhen and Shanghai.

Shanghai, site of China's pre-communist revolution stock market, is maturing slowly under the careful regulating guidance of state economists. The Shanghai Securities Exchange was officially opened in December.

Shenzhen, in the rollicking quasi-capitalist enclave Beijing has allowed to grow up along the Hong Kong border, has had a much wilder ride.

Shenzhen showed its free spirit from the start, beating Shanghai to the title of communist China's first exchange by beginning trading early last December. But Beijing would not allow a formal opening until Wednesday.

Waves of speculators crowded Shenzhen's over the counter market in mid-1990. Stocks originally worth one yuan were sold for as much as 20 yuan — a wild appreciation that stirred unhappy memories of pre-revolution money games among leaders in Beijing.

Officials slammed the brakes on, putting limits on share movements and moving trading off the streets and into the exchange.

"A few deviations in an experimental reform are unavoidable," Mr. Li Hao, Shenzhen's city communist head, said in a speech.

India devalues rupee for 2nd time in 3 days

NEW DELHI (R) — India sharply

reduced the value of its rupee against the dollar by 11.3 per cent Wednesday, the second hefty cut in three days, bankers said.

They said the new rate issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was 26.05 rupees to the dollar compared to 23.10 previously. It also cut the rupee's value by similar amounts against the pound sterling, the yen and the Deutschmark.

The RBI, India's central bank, cut the rupee's value by just more than nine per cent against the dollar Monday in what was widely seen as a move to meet the conditions for a large loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to overcome a severe foreign exchange crisis.

The speed with which the new government acted took bankers by surprise following the allocation of cabinet portfolios on June 23.

The RBI has steadily reduced the value of the rupee over past two years, but never so drastically.

Many bankers had expected the downward trend to continue until the rupee's value reached about 30 to the dollar by the end

of the year.

"Now we expect it to touch 30 very soon," one said.

India, in its worst economic crisis with foreign exchange reserves sufficient to cover less than a month of imports, took a \$1.8 billion loan from the IMF at the beginning of the year and is negotiating for up to \$5 billion more.

Bankers estimate India owes some \$70 billion abroad, and they expect further IMF loans to come with stiff conditions.

Some of the hardest conditions for India to accept, they said, would be cutting the workforce and freezing wages in the public sector, where trade unions are strong.

The bankers and some politicians said they feared such actions could produce social unrest.

New Finance Minister Manmohan Singh has pledged to start restructuring India's tightly-controlled economy, including some privatisation of state-owned industries.

The age when India regarded multi-national companies as "immoral, dangerous" was over and they would be allowed to invest in India, he said.

"We can do business with multi-nationals," he said at his

first news conference last week.

He said any barriers to foreign investment would be removed in a country where businessmen, domestic and foreign, have to negotiate a labyrinthine bureaucracy.

Attracting foreign investment appeared to be one of the reasons behind the devaluations, bankers said.

"They will certainly make foreign investment cheaper, and therefore more lucrative, and it seems this is one of the reasons behind the government's action," said one.

"But it will have a bad effect on the economy. We will have recession and high inflation because basic industries dependent on imported components will face the crunch and it will filter down," he said.

India imposed severe curbs on imports earlier this year as it fought off default on foreign debts.

Commerce Minister P. Chidambaram told a news conference Tuesday he would lift the import curbs and initiate structural reforms to boost exports.

"Exporters are very happy about the downward adjustment of the rupee," he said.

OECD predicts unemployment to rise in industrial countries

PARIS (R) — The impending economic rebound in the industrial world will be too weak to cut unemployment but governments should resist the temptation to loosen monetary and budgetary policies too much, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Wednesday.

Four million people in the 24-nation OECD area will lose their jobs during the present slowdown.

This would raise the average unemployment rate to seven per cent from six per cent, the Paris-based think tank said in its semi-annual economic outlook.

The overall tone of the report was muted, as befitted a recovery that economists expect to be below the historical norm.

While growth should pick up to 2.9 per cent next year from a meagre 0.3 per cent rate in the first half of 1991, unemployment will remain stuck at a high seven per cent.

"The projected moderate recovery would probably be sufficient to stabilise the rate of unemployment but not bring it down," the report said.

Growth nearer to 3.5 per cent for several years would be needed to dent the jobless rate, according to OECD economists.

Pumping up the money supply

to aid the recovery would be a mistake, the OECD said. Rather, money growth will need curbing.

Margins of slack in most economies are no wider than they were after the global stock market crash in October 1987 and in retrospect policy makers erred then in printing too much money.

The result was an increase in inflationary pressure a year later that had to be countered by higher interest rates, sowing the seeds for the current economic downturn.

"This would suggest caution in the present situation, and in particular in ensuring that easier monetary conditions are not maintained after recoveries, are under way," the OECD said.

Rigour should also be the byword for budget planners: The shortage of global savings makes it all the more important for countries with big deficits such as the United States, Italy and Canada to fulfil their pledges to stem the red ink, it said.

"Meeting medium-term com-

mitments to reduce budget deficits will... be critical in the recovery in order to maintain financial stability and relieve upward pressure on interest rates as demands on saving build up," according to the report.

To shorten the dole queues will not be easy, OECD chief economist Mr. David Henderson told a news conference. "It will call for a wide range of structural reforms... to help economies to function better," he said.

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Gorbachev warns republics they are all in crisis together

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev warned the Soviet Union's independence-minded republics Tuesday that they could not pull out of economic crisis alone.

The independent Interfax News Agency quoted him as telling representatives of the 15 republics that unilateral steps by some — including customs tariffs, barter and monetary reform — could only accelerate economic chaos.

"None of these policies are serious. Economics dictates one simple truth — not one of us can pull out of the crisis on his own," he told the representatives at a closed meeting.

Mr. Gorbachev pointed to an austerity programme drawn up by Soviet economist Grigory Yavlinsky and U.S. experts and said only the central government could carry out the reforms needed to attract Western support.

"No one will cooperate with us under (conditions of) unbalanced finances and an unbalanced economy," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev also criticised what he called partisans of "especially radical reform," charging they lacked the courage to take

responsibility for the changes they advocated.

The meeting was attended by the leaders of the nine republics who have agreed in principle to stay in a new, decentralised union, and by representatives of the six rebel republics, ranging from prime ministers to economics ministers.

The six — Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Georgia, Moldova and Armenia — have all refused to sign a proposed new union treaty but say they want continued economic and trade ties.

But the prospects for cooperation appeared dim.

Russian President Yeltsin told Soviet news agencies he plans to transfer most of the property in Russia now under central government control to the republic itself. The Ukraine has already taken a similar step.

Yeltsin, in interviews published Tuesday, also said he had reservations about a draft union treaty defining the Soviet republics' relations with Moscow, but would sign the document.

He said he would support a treaty provision which allows the central government to collect taxes directly from citizens in Russia, rather than letting the republic

collect taxes and then hand over a portion to Moscow.

The Baltic republics, meanwhile, continued to pursue their own economic policies, with all three governments signing an agreement on agricultural cooperation with Denmark Tuesday, according to the Estonian News Agency (ETA).

The agreement calls for direct trade ties with Denmark as well as creation of jointly-owned Baltic and Danish companies.

Lithuania also announced it would soon raise food prices as part of a move to encourage greater agricultural production.

The Baltfax News Agency said that meat prices would rise 56 per cent, dairy products 25 per cent and bread 20 per cent. No exact date for the increases was announced.

Estonia freed its food prices altogether Monday, with many items immediately doubling in price.

Mr. Gorbachev, in a strong sign of renewed reformist leanings, Tuesday welcomed the formation of a new centrist political force by leading liberals, his spokesman said.

At the same time the leaders of the new Democratic Reform

Movement made clear that their intention was to split Gorbachev's Communist Party, creating of its reformist wing.

"It is precisely these rank and file party members, who share the ideals of freedom, democracy and progress, that we can and must see as possible participants in our movement," one of them, Leningrad Mayor Anatoly Sobchak, said.

He added: "And, if we create a new party, as members. They are decent, honourable people who today do not know what to do, which way to go."

Mr. Sobchak was speaking at a news conference on the new movement, launched Monday by nine prominent liberals including close Gorbachev associates Alexander Yakovlev and Eduard Shevardnadze.

Mr. Gorbachev's spokesman Vitaly Ignatenko, giving the Soviet leader's reaction at a separate news conference, said: "It is clear this movement is non-confrontational. It invites cooperation from all who support perestroika."

"If we can thus interpret the organisation of the democratic movement, then, I repeat, it is a positive thing," he said.

Irish peace talks collapse

BELFAST (R) — Britain's Northern Ireland Minister Peter Brooke announced Wednesday that the latest Northern Ireland peace initiative had collapsed.

Political sources earlier said Mr. Brooke was ready to tell parliament the two-month-old talks between rival Catholic and Protestant politicians would be wound up without any agreement.

They were the first serious peace negotiations for 17 years in Northern Ireland, torn by guerrilla attacks by gunmen from both sides of the province's divide.

Mr. Brooke told reporters the talks, which began on April 30 after 14 months of preparation, had been valuable and produced genuine dialogue.

He said he hoped in due course to "explore the possibility of finding terms on which fresh discussions could be held."

The initiative involved politicians from Britain and Ireland as well as Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland.

It had been seen initially as a major step towards peace in the province, where a guerrilla campaign by the Irish Republican

Army (IRA) to end British rule has cost about 3,000 lives in the last two decades.

But the talks have been marked by haggling and procedural difficulties. Protestant unionists who support the link with Britain had said they would not continue talking if London and the government of the Irish Republic went ahead with a separate meeting on July 16.

Brooke had said that meeting would take place.

Sinn Fein, political wing of the guerrilla Irish Republican Army, was left out of the talks because it refused to renounce violence.

Walesa tells NATO Poland will not be buffer against Soviet Union

BRUSSELS (R) — Polish President Lech Walesa, on a rare visit to NATO, said Wednesday his country would not be part of any "buffer zone" against the Soviet Union but that it wanted closer ties with the Western alliance.

Mr. Walesa praised the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) as "a lasting element of the European architecture," in contrast to the Warsaw Pact which was formally wound up this week.

Poland was a member of the Warsaw Pact and, for decades, one of NATO's cold war enemies.

Mr. Walesa called for U.S. troops to remain in Europe as a key element of stability, but stressed that the Soviet Union — which shares a border with Poland — must not be left out of the post-cold war order.

"We do not intend to act and we are not acting against any state ... without the USSR's participation, it is impossible to have a lasting solution to the issues of peace and security on our continent," he told representatives from NATO's 16 nations.

"At the same time we resolutely reject any ideas of 'grey' or 'buffer' zones. They imply a continued division of the continent," Mr. Walesa said.

"Today, we reject the role of force in European relationships ... our objective is to integrate with Europe, its essential segment being the expanding cooperation and liaison with NATO."

"Mr. Walesa is only the second head of state from Eastern Europe to visit NATO headquarters. The Western alliance invited



Lech Walesa

all members of the Warsaw Pact to visit last year, after Communist regimes in Eastern Europe had collapsed.

Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel came in March and appealed for NATO not to shut out new members.

The alliance, wary of upsetting Moscow, has told the new democracies of Eastern Europe that they cannot join, even though those countries feel uneasy in the shadow of their unstable Soviet neighbour.

Mr. Walesa made no reference to Poland's membership but praised a statement by NATO foreign ministers last month which pledged more diplomatic and military contacts and said the security of Eastern Europe was "of direct and material concern" to the West.

NATO officials have said this could be interpreted as a kind of implicit security guarantee.

"Never will our alliance's con-

cerns be confined only to the security and wellbeing of our members," said NATO Secretary General Mr. Manfred Woerner, paying tribute to Mr. Walesa's role as leader of the Solidarity trade union movement during the 1980s.

"Our vision of a Europe whole and free has no place for zones of unequal security, for spheres of influence or military blocs," Mr. Woerner said.

Mr. Walesa said Poland also would work with neighbouring countries like Czechoslovakia and Hungary to strengthen regional security and supported the 35-nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

But Mr. Walesa warned that economic divisions in Europe — between the rich and prosperous West and the impoverished East — could threaten progress in building a new order.

Meanwhile Belgium said Tuesday it would support Poland's bid for membership of the European Community as soon as the fledgling democracy was strong enough to cope with the responsibilities.

"Belgium ... will support Poland's full membership of the European Community as soon as it is able to meet the economic and political commitments involved," said a joint statement issued after Mr. Walesa met Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens.

It also said Belgium would not do what it could to foster cooperation among the reforming countries of East and Central Europe and to help investment take root there.

START treaty is not ready — U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The missile-reduction treaty President Bush hoped to sign at a summit meeting in Moscow is still not ready, despite another round of high-level talks with Soviet officials, the State Department has said.

The result could be further delay in rescheduling a Moscow meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, although Mr. Bush will meet with the Soviet leader in London in two weeks immediately after a summit of the seven leading industrialised countries.

Under Secretary of State Reginald Bartholomew is flying home

Tuesday night from talks in Geneva with Soviet officials on the remaining sticking points barring a Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START).

The State Department spokeswoman, Margaret D. Tutwiler, listed all the issues that Mr. Bartholomew had faced when he flew to Geneva last Wednesday as still unsettled.

They include the extent of information on missile flight tests to be exchanged, the number of warheads to be carried on certain missiles and restrictions on developing new missiles.

She said Mr. Bartholomew

would report to Secretary of State James Baker, whose three meetings last month with Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh also failed to break the stalemate.

The treaty is designed to reduce U.S. and Soviet stockpiles of long-range nuclear missiles, bombers and submarines by about 30 per cent overall. It has been in negotiation in Geneva for nearly a decade.

Spokeswoman Tutwiler said "important work remains to be done" even after Bartholomew's talks in Geneva with Soviet officials.

CIA dismisses allegation of Cuban infiltrator

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Information Agency (USIA) has acknowledged that an alleged Cuban intelligence agent worked for a U.S.-backed, anti-Communist television station, but said the man was in no position to harm Television Marti.

U.S. Central Intelligence Agency officials, however, dismissed as "total nonsense" additional claims that the man, Jose Rafael Fernandez Brenes, had infiltrated the CIA.

"The allegation that this individual infiltrated the CIA is total nonsense," said agency spokesman Mark Mansfield.

He had no further comment on a report by the Cuban news agency that Fernandez infiltrated the agency and provided information about the creation and operation of TV Marti.

Fernandez, 52, speaking to reporters in Havana, said his secret mission had been to become part of the creation and operation of Television Marti, a multi-million dollar station run by USIA and hostile to Cuban President Fidel Castro's government, which went on the air on March 27, 1990.

The USIA acknowledged that Fernandez worked under contract as a television producer from April 1990 until June 7, 1991, when his contract expired. But they minimised his role.

Angola enjoys first days of peace

LUANDA, Angola (AP) — On a sandy island across Luanda Bay, beach restaurants are full and music from nightclubs wafts out over the still waters of the South Atlantic.

After 30 years of almost unbroken warfare, Angolans are finally enjoying the first weeks of peace. But not everyone can join the dancing.

Beneath the palms lining Luanda's waterfront, young men lounge on crutches. Each has had a leg blown off at the knee.

International aid officials believe Angola has the world's highest proportion of amputees. The government estimates there are 80,000 soldiers and civilians who lost limbs in the wars.

Most are victims of the countless mines planted around the country during Angola's 14-year struggle for independence from Portugal and the subsequent civil war between the pro-Soviet government and U.S.-backed rebels after Lisbon's colonial rule ended in 1975.

Since the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, or UNITA, signed peace accords on May 31, the two sides have been working together to remove mines around the country.

The task is enormous and the mines under the southern African nation's roads, fields and bush continue to claim victims daily.

Half a million mines are thought to have been laid during the 16-year civil war.

"You have to remember that in Europe they're still finding mines left over from World War II 50 years later," said Col. Pedro Sebastiao from the government's elite parachute regiment. "Now think how long it will take here."

The close cooperation between the two sides since the ceasefire has surprised many observers.

In Luena, 800 kilometres east of the capital, commanders who fought the last battle of the war have exchanged maps of each others mine fields. And teams are working together to clear mines from roads around the town.

Road links to Luena, the capital of Angola's easternmost province of Matiz, were long cut off by the war.

The combined efforts of government and rebel troops have now opened a 260-kilometre road north to Saurimo, the main town of Luanda Sul Province.

But the demining process has yet to move off the roads to the adjacent fields.

U.N. Chief seeks bigger Bonn role in world affairs

BONN (R) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar called Tuesday for the powerful new unified Germany to play a bigger role in the international community, including taking part in peacekeeping operations.

"We are ... aware of the active discussion that has been under way in Germany on how your country might enhance its contributions to peace-keeping and other peace and security operations of the organisation," he said in a speech to foreign policy experts.

"The United Nations would only stand to gain from whatever contribution that the German government and parliament decide to extend in that area," the U.N. chief said.

The issue of German has divided Germans since the Gulf war when Chancellor Helmut Kohl cited constitutional restrictions for not sending his troops to join the allied action against Iraq.

Mr. Kohl wants to pass a constitutional amendment to allow German troops to operate outside the NATO (North Atlantic

Treaty Organisation) area.

The opposition Social Democrats oppose an expanded German military role, saying they favour only a role within the United Nations "blue helmet" peacekeeping forces.

On the third and final day of his official visit to Germany, Mr. Perez de Cuellar met Mr. Kohl, but declined to give details of the meeting. He said only that the two had agreed on several issues, including Yugoslavia, the Middle East, Cyprus, Central America and the environment.

In his address to the German foreign policy society, the U.N. chief praised Germany for achieving unification and taking a leading role in reshaping the political map of Europe.

"Even in times ... of division and difficulty, Germans contributed with great distinction to the work of the United Nations."

"The prospect of this contribution being qualitatively enhanced and enriched, follows the unification of your country and the weight that gives you in the councils of the world," Mr. Perez de Cuellar said.

South Asian countries urged to wipe out terrorism

MALE, Maldives (R) — Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom urged South Asian countries Wednesday to act on the Assassination of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and enforce an anti-terrorism convention signed three years ago.

Gandhi's killing by a suicide bomber in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu on May 21 cast a shadow over a two-day meeting of South Asian foreign ministers which began Wednesday in the Maldives.

Ministers from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are preparing for a conference of their leaders in Colombo in November.

The seven countries form the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), launched six years ago to improve the living standards of their poverty-stricken people.

"Rajiv Gandhi's brutal assassination brings home to us the stark reality of international terrorism," said Mr. Abdul Gayoom, current chairman of SAARC, inaugurating the meeting.

"We mourn his loss not only because of his singular contribution to SAARC as one of its founding fathers, but also because of his genuine commitment to international and regional

cooperation," Mr. Abdul Gayoom said.

He urged all South Asian countries to take immediate action to enable the enforcement of a SAARC convention for the suppression of terrorism signed three years ago.

Only Sri Lanka and Nepal have so far made laws to implement the convention, conference sources said.

"There has unfortunately been a delay for purely technical reasons in our enacting the enabling legislation," Indian Foreign Secretary Muchkund Debey told officials at the weekend.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrilla group, fighting for an independent homeland in Sri Lanka, is the prime suspect in the assassination, Indian investigators have said.

The Tigers have denied involvement.

Several Sri Lankan tamils, suspected of being members of the rebel group, are among those arrested by Indian police in connection with the murder.

Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Harold Herat said Gandhi's death has cast a "dark and deadly shadow" over the meeting.

"It is of vital importance to uproot the scourge of terrorism which has brought death and destruction," he said.

The foreign ministers were due to discuss an agenda for the SAARC summit in Colombo.

Roh, Bush back Korean unification

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. President George Bush and South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo stressed the link between unification of North and South Korea and lasting peace in the Far East during a visit by Mr. Roh.

At a White House dinner Tuesday, Roh renewed a pledge of friendship between the United States and South Korea and urged cooperation by the long-time allies to reduce tensions.

"Korea and the United States should closely cooperate to encourage changes that will remove tension and instability," Mr. Roh said in a toast at the dinner.

Earlier, Mr. Bush had said that only unifying the hardline Com-

munist North and the capitalist South would bring a lasting peace to the Korean peninsula.

"Lasting peace will come to Korea only when Korea is made whole, and here too there is hope," said Mr. Bush. He pledged U.S. help to the two Koreas to solve the problems of unification.

Mr. Roh said he hoped to see North and South Korea reunited by the end of the century and, according to U.S. officials, was reassured by Mr. Bush in private talks of America's continued commitment to South Korean security.

The two leaders also discussed expansion of economic and trade cooperation and expressed their

concern over a reported effort by North Korea to develop nuclear weapons, officials said.

Mr. Roh is scheduled to travel to Ottawa Thursday for talks with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

The U.S. visit by Mr. Roh came at a time of change in international relations in the Far East and signs of a thaw in the tense relationship between Seoul and Pyongyang.

The two countries have fielded joint sports teams in international athletic contests and both are moving towards full membership in the United Nations. North Korea had previously rejected separate membership for the two Koreas.

Actress Lee Remick dies of cancer at age 55

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actress Lee Remick, who specialised in portraying women in crises and gained an Oscar nomination as an alcoholic in Days Of Wine And Roses, died Tuesday. She was 55.

Miss Remick died of cancer at 5:15 a.m. (1215 GMT) at her Brentwood home, with family members at her side, said publicist Dick Winters.

Her death came one day after actor Michael Landon died of liver and pancreatic cancer.

Miss Remick's cancer was diagnosed in the spring of 1989. She had undergone only physical therapy in recent months, Mr. Winters said.

She was in frail health at one of her final public appearances when a star was dedicated to her on April 29 on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

"This has been a slow slide and it finally came about," Mr. Winters said.

Miss Remick starred as an alcoholic in the 1962 movie Days Of Wine And Roses; a nervous wreck in The Women's Room; a nymphomaniac in The Detective; and a woman who takes drastic measures to cover up her infidelity in a remake of The Letter.

Most recently, Miss Remick starred as the unfeeling mother to Marlee Matlin in the 1989 television movie A Bridge To Silence.

Actor Jack Lemmon, who co-starred with Remick in Days Of Wine And Roses, said: "Knowing and working with Lee will always remain one of the most joyous experiences of my life. She was precious, and certainly the embodiment of grace."

Gregory Peck, who played Remick's husband in 1976's The Omen, a horror film, said the actress possessed "a rare quality, which I would call a depth of womanliness. She played her on- and off-screen roles with an open heart, an open mind, keen intelligence and honest emotion."

"She made all of her leading men look good," Peck said.

Actress Angela Lansbury, who starred with Miss Remick in Stephen Sondheim's first musical, Anyone Can Whistle, said she "was such a brave and extraordinarily positive thinking person. She never gave into the cancer for one second."

Miss Remick appeared in more than 20 motion pictures, including A Face In The Crowd, The Long Hot Summer, Experiment In Terror, Wild River, Sanctuary, The Wheeler Dealers, Travelling Lady, Anatomy Of A Murder, Tribute, The Competition and The Vision.

Her television credits included Toughlove, Ike, Mistrall's Daughter, The Blue Knight and Jennie, Lady Randolph Churchill.

She played other famous women in her career, including a former first lady in Eleanor — In Her Own Words: A Tribute To Eleanor Roosevelt.

Miss Remick moved frequently between motion pictures and television.

"I just look for the stuff that interests me. And I don't like to repeat," she said in a 1988 interview with the Associated Press. "That's the nature of the biz. Once you've done something well, they think, 'ah, that's what



Actress Lee Remick (right) with Dirk Bogarde in The Vision (file photo)

she does," and they keep sending you the same script over and over again."

She was born in Quincy, Mass., on Dec. 14, 1935, to department store owner Frank Remick and his wife, Patricia, an actress. Miss Remick attended New York's Miss Hewitt School and studied dance at the Swoboda School and with the Charles Weidman Co.

After working in summer stock, she made her Broadway debut at 17 as a wise-cracking teenager in the 1953 flop Be Your Age. She entered Barnard College that fall but dropped out after one semester to go into the theatre again.

Her film debut came at age 22

in 1957's A Face In The Crowd, directed by Elia Kazan and co-starring Andy Griffith, also making his film debut. She played a sexy drum majorette who weds the power-mad Griffith.

Her performance in the 1966 Broadway play Wait Until Dark earned her a Tony Award nomination. In 1974, she was cast in a London production of Bus Stop.

Miss Remick is survived by her husband of 21 years, producer Kip Gowans; daughter Kate Collieran Sullivan; son Matthew Remick Collieran; mother Pat Packard; and stepdaughter Justine Gowans Solly and Nicola Gowans.

COLUMN

Dutch prince in hospital with depression

THE HAGUE (R) — Prince Claus, husband of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, has been admitted to hospital suffering from depression, the Dutch government said Tuesday. The 64-year-old German-born prince was under observation at a hospital in the Hague after a recurrence of the condition he suffered in the early 1980s, the government said. Claus dropped his official duties from 1982 to 1984 while being treated in Swiss and Dutch clinics for depression. He later referred to it as "the worst period in my life." The former diplomat married the then Princess Beatrix in 1966. The couple have three grown-up sons.

Prince Harry has stitches in knee after latest tumble

LONDON (R) — Prince Harry, six-year-old son of Prince Charles and his wife Diana, had two stitches in his knee after an accident at school — the second mishap to befall Britain's young royals within a month. The prince, the youngest of the couple's two sons and third in line to the throne, tripped in a gravel square at his school in London and gashed his knee. Buckingham Palace said. The hapless prince returned to school after the wound was stitched and later took part in a games lesson. "It was a case of better safe than sorry," a palace spokesman said of the prince's treatment at a central London hospital. Nine-year-old Prince William, second in line to the throne after his father Prince Charles, underwent surgery on a skull fracture early last month after he was accidentally hit on the head with a golf club in a school sports lesson. It was the second time Prince Harry has needed medical attention after an accident.

Rare Bible to go on sale in London

LONDON (R) — One of the world's earliest printed Bibles, a rare version valued at more than £1 million (\$1.6 million), will come up for sale on the open market this year, auctioneers Christie's has said. The Bible is a Vulgate, an ancient Latin version, which was printed in Bavaria from type used by Johann Gutenberg, who produced the first printed Bible, Christie's said. It is believed to be around 530 years old. The Bible, the only copy of an edition of 14 to be still in private hands, will be sold by the auction house in a lot of rare German books in November.

Plane engine rains debris on San Francisco suburb

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — An engine of a Lockheed L-1011 charter jet disintegrated shortly after takeoff, raining metal debris on a San Francisco suburb but causing no injuries, authorities have said. The American Trans Air Jumbo Jet had just departed with 379 passengers and crew on a charter flight to Hawaii, said an airport spokesman. He said the plane circled, dumped some fuel into the ocean to lighten its load and then returned safely to the airport. He said metal engine parts fell on a residential section of Daly City near the airport, smashing the windshield of a car. Police said they had not received any reports of injuries. The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating.

Singaporeans flock to see first adult movies

SINGAPORE (R) — Singaporeans crammed cinemas when the country lifted a ban on adult movies and gained their first glimpse of bared breasts on screen, the Straits Times newspaper said. Hiding behind dark glasses and newspapers, coy filmgoers queued to watch films such as Erotic Nights, Stooges In Tokyo and Wild At Heart. "My wife doesn't know I'm here. I told her I was going to the community centre," one 68-year-old man said. Relaxing strict censorship rules, Singapore introduced an "R" (restricted) rating for films to which only those aged 18 and over may be admitted.